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Bishop welcomes new vicar at Burscough church

Talks date set in bid to resolve rail dispute

BOOTLE TAXI FIRM TARGETS ORMSKIRK

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Borough council grants operating licence to company that sparked 'cabbie war' in Liverpool

A TAXI firm whose operating methods led to a 'cabbie war' in Liverpool wants to expand into Ormskirk and Aughton.

Delta taxis, based in Bootle, has been granted a licence to operate by West Lancashire Borough Council.

When the firm launched in Liverpool in 2014, however, it led to a protest from hackney cab drivers who claimed it was taking away their living.

Their protest brought some city roads to a standstill.

The city council temporarily revoked Delta's licence as it did not have an operational Liverpool phone number and only took bookings through an app, but this was then overturned by magistrates.

The Liverpool Taxi Alliance, said at the time that councils should do more to regulate private hire firms.

The firm has proved popular with customers, however, for its competitive fares and Delta says it has been drawn to the student population in Ormskirk, as well as increasing demand generated by new housing developments.

The company also says the move will be welcomed by drivers.

A Delta taxi

A Delta spokesperson said: "West Lancashire driver options have been fairly limited until now. Delta's arrival along with some very generous start-up packages for new drivers will no doubt give the local marketplace a much-needed shakeup."

Chris Carr, founder of local taxi company Blueline Five-0, which recently took over A&B Taxis of Moorgate, Ormskirk, said: "Business is business and competition is healthy as long as we all abide by the same rules.

"The public of Ormskirk will make their choice as to what constitutes a 'local firm', and more importantly who serves them best. The vast majority of our drivers live, work and play in the West Lancs area. My own family has been resident in Aughton since 1985 and my kids and grandkids have all gone to school here.

'Loyal'

"The taxi public in Ormskirk and surrounding areas are quite a discerning lot, and if we get it wrong they like to tell us, they know our drivers and we try equally hard to know them."

Responding to Delta's claim that the local market place needs a shake-up, he added: "It's fair to say that we here at Blueline Five-0 have given the place a little shake-up of our own since our acquisition of A&B Taxis last year.

"We value our drivers and our customers and we feel that we charge a fair rate for our services that keeps our customers loyal and our drivers' finances healthy."

Eleanor Taylor with daughter Jean and son Harry holding her 100th birthday greeting from the Queen.

Nell celebrates 100th birthday

FAMILY, friends, staff and fellow residents held a party at the Arranmore Care Home in Burscough to mark Eleanor Taylor's 100th birthday.

Mrs Taylor, known as Nell, has been resident at the home in Square Lane for three years, having lived independently in the village until the age of 97.

For her birthday on Tuesday (April 3) she enjoyed a special party, including a buffet and entertainment by singer Mark Sinclair.

Nell, who has a daughter, Jean son, Harry, and four grandchildren and six great grandchildren, was born in the Everton district of Liverpool.

She married Harry, a Petty Officer in the Royal Navy, in 1942 and the couple enjoyed 63 years together.

During the Second World War Nell worked at a munitions factory in Kirkby.

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Thursday talks date set in bid to resolve long-running rail row over guards role

Report by **Henry James**

MERSEYRAIL has confirmed that independent conciliation talks are going to be held between themselves and the RMT union on Thursday (April 5) in a bid to bring an end to the year-long dispute over guards on trains.

During the last year strikes have been held by rail staff opposed to the planned introduction of the new driver-only fleet of trains in 2020.

The guards have been promised new roles by Merseyrail, but RMT believe that the role of guards is "safety critical."

The last consultative talks between RMT and Merseyrail were back in mid-2017.

In November last year Liverpool City Mayor, Joe Anderson and Metro Mayor, Steve Rotherham called for "independent conciliation" between Merseyrail and the RMT in an open letter sent to both organisations.

A Merseyrail spokesman said: "Passengers, business leaders, politicians and residents across the City Region now have a clear stated position from the RMT and that it will willingly work with Merseyrail through independent conciliation, as recommended by the Metro Mayor, in finding an outcome to this dispute."

RMT general secretary, Mick Cash, said: "Merseyrail wrote to RMT on March 19 stating for the first time in this dispute that they will enter into talks accepting that the outcome may be a second person on every train.

"Merseyrail's previous refusal of this option even being on the table had been the blocking point for any talks taking place for the last 10 months.

"The company contacted ACAS that day and later that evening RMT agreed a draft Terms Of Reference with the conciliator, and have stood ready to enter talks since then. Despite two weeks inexplicable delay, talks are now finally set to take place.

"RMT welcomes this development, and the union will seek to examine all possibilities of how the parties can bring about the realisation of the option to have a second person on every train.

"To that end we call upon the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and its Transport Committee to allow Merseyrail Electrics to freely negotiate a settlement of this dispute in line with the wishes of the vast majority of the passengers using the system, who clearly wish to see a second person on all of the new trains."

A computer generated image of what the new Merseyrail trains will look like

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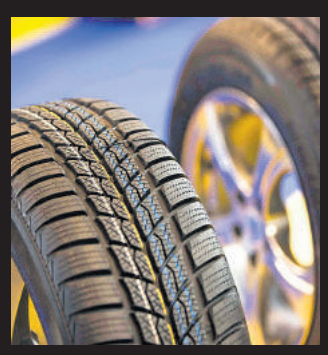

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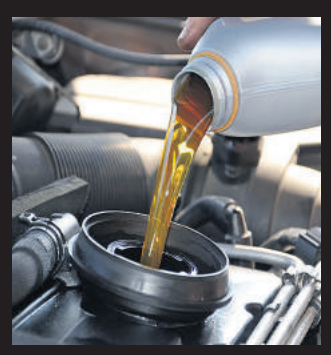

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Landlords urged to be on their guard after cannabis farms discovered

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A LETTINGS agency boss has warned landlords to be vigilant after two properties in West Lancashire were discovered to have been rented to grow cannabis farms.

Cannabis plants were found in two properties on Orrell Lane and Glenroyd Drive, both in Burscough, following police raids.

A 16-year-old boy was arrested at Orrell Lane but released without charge.

Martin Luftus, managing director of Rebell Property Limited, which had let them both out to two families in December said that it was regular checks on the properties that led to the nefarious find.

However, despite the early intervention - the cannabis plants had not grown sufficiently to yield the drug dealers a crop - he said costs to repair damage to the buildings is expected to be about £3,500 each.

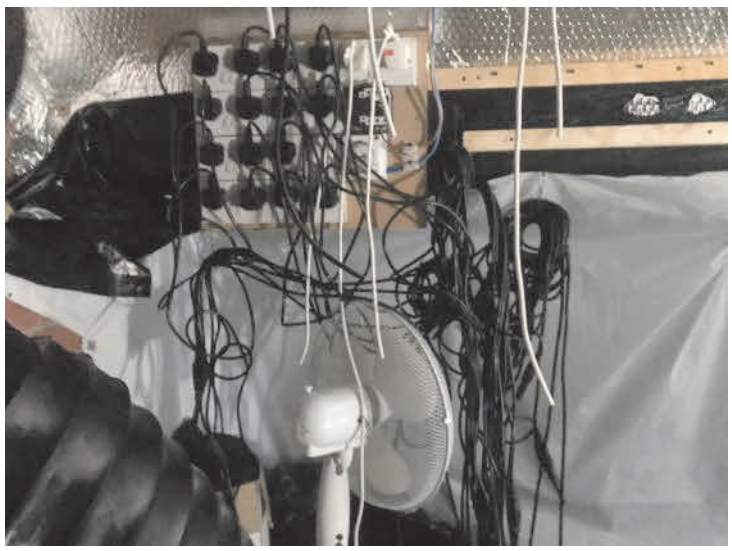
Mr Luftus said that all proper procedures had been carried out in relation to the lets and nothing aroused any suspicions.

"They totally alter your house to grow these cannabis farms. They take all the furniture out, put silver paper up the walls, put holes in the ceiling and vents and they take slates off the roof, so that it all filters up outside. They also bridge the electricity meters and take all the doors off.

"The cost to get it all back in shape for those two properties will be about £7,000."

And he added: "Even though you do everything by the book, complete all the right documentation, have all the right processes in place, it's really important to do monthly checks to ensure that you know what's going on behind closed doors.

"Some landlords renting out premises in Ormskirk live elsewhere, so if you have a property make sure you have someone local to check it otherwise it could be misused and could also cost you a lot of money in terms of damage that is going on."



The inside of one of the properties used for growing cannabis

Mr Luftus was keen to stress that students were not involved in the cannabis production at the properties.

A spokesperson for Lancashire Constabulary said: "On March 6 we executed a warrant at an address in Orrell Lane, Burscough. A number of cannabis plants were recovered from the property. A 16-year-old boy was arrested at the scene on suspicion of producing a controlled drug and released with no charge.

"On March 15 a second raid was carried out at an address in Glenroyd Drive, Burscough. A number of cannabis plants were recovered from the property. Enquiries are ongoing.

"Anyone with information can contact police on 101 quoting log reference 0302 of March 6."

Sacha Davies (right) and friends at the sale

Sacha's cut-price wig sale raises £1,600 for cancer support group

AN Ormskirk-based wig maker has raised £1,640 for a breast cancer support group.

Former hairdresser Sacha Davies held a sale of donated new and used wigs at knock-down prices at her shop, Hair Solutions, in Railway Road.

Originally from London, Sacha moved to Ormskirk with her husband five years ago. She went into the business because she enjoys wearing wigs herself and enjoys the confidence that they give her.

Many of the wigs she makes are for cancer sufferers undergoing treatment and other women who suffer hair loss as a result of medical conditions.

She also volunteers her skills at the Marina Dalglish Larks Breast Cancer Centre in Liverpool and the Sunshine support group for cancer sufferers at Aintree Hospital which was the beneficiary of her fundraiser.

Typically, wigs sell for between £100 and £250, but at Sacha's one off sale - featured on TV - she sold them for between £5 and £10!

A raffle and a signed Liverpool FC shirt sold on Facebook added £560 to the total.

Co-op store's 'egg-stra' treat for young hospital patients

YOUNGSTERS having to spend Easter in Ormskirk Hospital received an 'egg-stra' special delivery - courtesy of staff and customers at a local store.

Gareth McBurney, manager of the Co-op food store in Wigan Road, Ormskirk donned an Easter bunny costume to visit the hospital and hand over 150 Easter eggs and chocolate treats donated by colleagues, members and customers.

Mr McBurney, who helped to organise the delivery, said: "It's heart-warming that so many people are keen to make a difference and think of others. The response has been fantastic and we would like to thank all our members, customers and colleagues."

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Tory group accuse Labour of 'secret plans' to release green belt land in new Local Plan

Council leader refutes claim and says review is a government requirement

Report by **Henry James**

THE Conservative group on West Lancs Borough Council have accused the ruling Labour leadership of having "secret plans for a massive release of land from the green belt for a new and unnecessary Local Plan."

The Tories claim the proposed plan would see a "huge increase" in the existing annual target for new homes and commercial use.

And they say Labour wants to provide "land to meet the housing and commercial needs of neighbouring councils."

However, the Labour group have refuted the claim and say that the need to review the current Local Plan is a requirement from national government.

Conservative leader, Councilor David Westley, said: "The existing Adopted Local Plan still has nine years to run, yet Labour are clearly intent on producing a new plan, one that will cover an unprecedented 30 years and need the release of hundreds of acres of prime agricultural land in our greenbelt.

"Labour also want to dispense with the present use of safeguarding potential future sites. This means the council would abdicate its responsibility to manage the release of sites and allow developers or, as they term it, 'the market', to decide which sites should be developed first. It would also mean all the sites needed for the next 30 years would be available for development from 2020."

Councillor David Westley

Council leader, Councillor Ian Moran

Importance

And Cllr. Westley, who represents Aughton and Downholland ward, added: "Labour's plans are irresponsible and if implemented would have hugely detrimental effect right across West Lancashire.

"Labour do not appreciate the importance of our green belt, nor understand that the council should act as its custodian and all councillors should be determined to maintain it for future generations.

"The Conservative group are determined to oppose Labour's reckless plans."

In response, council leader, Councillor Ian Moran, said: "It's ironic that the Conservatives have suddenly become concerned about protecting the green belt just as our legal challenge over Parrs Lane (land which they removed from the green belt) has reached a successful conclusion.

"West Lancashire needs a long-term Local Plan to address many issues, including climate change, not simply for housing and development needs.

"As the Parrs Lane legal dispute has shown, the 'safeguarding' of land for future development in the current Local Plan doesn't offer sufficient protection to our green belt, so a more effective, long-term approach is needed. It is difficult to understand why the Conservatives refuse to consider such an approach and want to persist in their ineffective, short-term thinking.

"The public should also be aware that the need to review the current Local Plan is not a whim of the Labour administration but a requirement from national government. It is also a requirement of government that local councils, under the 'duty to co-operate', consider the needs of surrounding authorities when developing a Local Plan.

"We're not choosing to build properties for other authorities but, under the current regulations, we are required to consider their future needs, just as they are required to consider ours. We also need to ensure that our local businesses are able to take full advantage of the commercial opportunities created by Liverpool's recently acquired 'superport' status, so working with neighbouring authorities is an essential part of the process.

"The Conservatives are deliberately trying to mislead the public over the nature of any potential development plans. A significant proportion of any future development, particularly commercial land, will be in the Skelmersdale area, helping to develop new job opportunities there and provide a huge boost to the local economy.

"We know that the Conservatives have difficulty understanding how effective investment in Skelmersdale can benefit everyone in the borough but it is disappointing to see them use this as an excuse for abandoning their duties in the Local Plan Cabinet Working Group.

"It would leave us in a very dangerous position not to progress with the local plan, given current government intervention in other areas where Local Plan discussions have not progressed far enough.

"Such intervention would take control of our green belt out of our hands, and decisions made on its release would then be made away from West Lancashire, without any local input.

"This makes the Conservatives' refusal to engage in the working group all the more concerning. Do they really not care about West Lancashire's green belt?"

Charity marks Conductive Education Awareness Week

RAINBOW House celebrated National Conductive Education (CE) Awareness Week with a series of events which showed how CE helps the children and young adults who attend the centre.

The aim of the week is to increase understanding of conductive education and its benefits to children and young adults with neurological conditions that affect muscle control, ability and learning.

The event at the Mawdelsey-based charity, which relies entirely on donations, saw children taking on challenges involving moving independently and being measured on the distance each individual achieved.

Mayor's Charity Ball date

THE Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancs, Councillor Neil and Mrs Julie Furey, will host a Charity Ball at the Lancashire Manor Hotel in Prescott Road, Up Holland on Friday, April 6, in aid of the mayor's chosen charities, the 42nd Ormskirk (Skelmersdale St Paul's) Scout Group; the Sewing Rooms; and The Evermoor Hub.

Aughton homes campaign was 'a matter of principle' says planning chief

Report by **Kenny Parker**

WEST Lancs Council's planning chief has described the decision to oppose plans by Redrow Homes and Wainhomes to build 400 homes on 'safeguarded' land in Aughton as "a matter of principle."

As previously reported in the Champion, the developers' second appeal to the Planning Inspectorate to build on land at Parrs Lane and Prescot Road, was rejected following a campaign by the council and the Aughton Residents Group (2012).

Following the local authority's refusal of the initial application in 2015, the housebuilders had previously appealed to the Planning Inspectorate and the council had also defended their decision at the High Court.

The council had maintained that in the Local Plan the area of land is safeguarded for future development (at present beyond 2027) and that it can only be released for development if they fail to meet their other housing obligations, which the housebuilders tried and ultimately failed to prove was the case.

West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for planning, Councillor John Hodson, said that the council was very pleased with the outcome.

He said: "In 2015, when the Labour group took control of the administration, Redrow and Wainhomes put in a big application for 400 homes. Their assertion was that we had significantly fallen behind our five-year housing supply, which the Planning Inspector has shown is not the case.

Councillor John Hodson

"We refused the application. It was premature. The land had been safeguarded and identified for future development needs, i.e. for after 2027.

"If we had given away the safeguarded site that would have significantly curtailed what we were hoping to do with the Liverpool city area. And if the developers had succeeded in getting this application through, a lot of other neighbouring authorities would also have had to fall in line. So it became a point of principle and ultimately it was a political decision."

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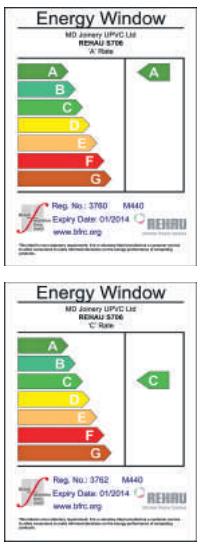

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Black swan cygnets make a splash at wildfowl centre

THE WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre welcomed a trio of new additions to its feathered attractions in time for Easter with the hatching of three black swan cygnets.

The new arrivals come as the officials at the Burscough reserve say they are expecting a very good season for nesting birds this year.

As well as its plumage, the black swan is distinctive for its striking red bill and the species breeds mainly in the south east and south west regions of Australia. The male is slightly bigger than the female, with a straighter bill, which is the only way to tell them apart.

Like other swans, black swans are largely monogamous and pair for life.

The newly-hatched cygnets can be seen by children with their parents in the Weird or Wonderful area of the grounds at the Mere.

Centre manager, Nick Brooks, said: "We are already seeing lots of activity in the breeding season – not only do we have these three cygnets, but we also have nine Hawaiian geese goslings (Nenes) and a cape barren gosling is also due to hatch.

"Add the wild birds -moorhens, mallard and shelduck - all nest building and we are expecting a good season for nesting birds."

The black swans and their cygnets take to the water for an early swimming lesson at the WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre.

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University teams up with Tate in innovative learning project

Report by **Kenny Parker**

EDGE Hill University is collaborating with the Tate Liverpool gallery and museum on an innovative education and community research project which will inform the gallery's learning initiatives at a local and national level.

Schools in Residence is a pilot project involving children, staff and students from three Liverpool City Region primary schools, Edge Hill's Faculty of Education, and Tate Liverpool's Learning Department. It aims to explore new ways for schools to enhance and enrich teaching and learning and for children and their families to enjoy and develop a sense of 'ownership' of museum and gallery spaces.

During the successful initial phase of the project, children from the three schools participated in workshops with Tate Liverpool artist educator Harriett Hall, programme manager, Dr Deborah Riding and Edge Hill staff. The children explored their ideas about learning and what a classroom in a gallery could be like. They produced writing, images and models which were presented to the public along with photos and a video installation in Tate Liverpool's Tate Exchange space. Visitors to the exhibition were able to contribute by adding their thoughts and ideas to 'blueprint' posters.

Phase two of the project saw classes from one of the schools (LIPA Primary School) take up residency in the gallery for two weeks. The children experienced their planned timetable as usual, but using the gallery's many different spaces as their classroom. The class teachers made careful use of the artworks displayed in the gallery to enrich teaching and learning.

Students and staff from Edge Hill and staff from the gallery's Learning Department participated in the lessons and at the end of each day discussed the teachers' and pupils' responses.

Children taking part in an innovative learning project at Tate Liverpool in conjunction with Edge Hill University.

That research will now be used to help to develop the model for a future programme of schools in residence.

Nichola Callander, Edge Hill's assistant head of department for Children, Education and Communities, said: "We want the children to feel like they belong in the gallery. This project is giving them and their families new perspectives."

Dr Helen O'Keeffe, associate dean of the university's Faculty of Education, added: "We hope that the project will open up opportunities for all those involved to experience art and the gallery from a range of different perspectives and consider the opportunities the gallery can offer."

Ambulance worker pleasantly surprised by lunch treat gesture

PARAMEDICS are used to not knowing what they will have to deal with on a day-to-day basis but one ambulance worker was pleasantly surprised following a recent impromptu encounter with a member of the public!

Michael, who does not wish to give his full name but who lives in West Lancs, took a quick break between calls to pop in to Booths in Burscough on Wednesday, March 28 to pick up a pork pie and rotisserie chicken for his lunch.

But when he went up to the till to pay, he was stopped by a middle-aged woman who said she wanted to pick up the tab!

Michael told the Champion: "I had never met this lady before but she was quite emotional and insisted that she would pay for my lunch.

"I said that was very nice of her but it was okay and I would pay myself but she insisted and I didn't want to appear rude.

"When I asked her why, she was welling up and said: 'You do a very, very great job!'

"I was quite taken aback. It's one of the nicest gestures I have experienced in 10 years working for the ambulance service.

"It was completely unnecessary, of course, we do it for the love of the job, but it was a very nice thing to do all the same."

Rosie Cooper backs fights against puppy smuggling

WEST Lancs MP Rosie Cooper has pledged her support to dog welfare charity Dogs Trust's campaign against puppy smuggling.

Undercover investigations have revealed how unscrupulous breeders take advantage of, and profit from issues with the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) which allows animals to travel between EU countries without having to go into quarantine.

Dogs travelling into the UK are supposed to be at least 15 weeks old, microchipped, vaccinated for rabies, treated for tapeworm and have a pet passport.

However, under-age puppies are being illegally imported into Great Britain from central and eastern Europe, often transported thousands of miles in cramped conditions with no food and water, and sold to unsuspecting members of the public.

Rosie Cooper said: "I'm pleased to support Dogs Trust in raising awareness of the plight of illegally imported puppies, who suffer the most harrowing of journeys at the hands of these unscrupulous dealers.

"It's imperative that the Government takes immediate action by enforcing proper checks at the ports and on-the-spot fines, as well as introducing revised legislation as a priority when the UK leaves the EU."

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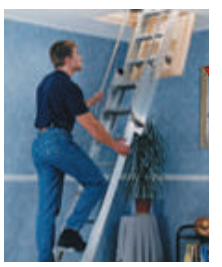
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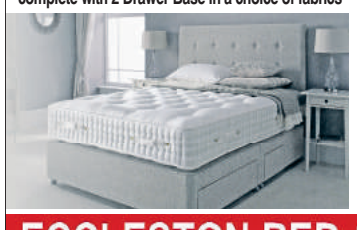

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Edge Hill in top 20 of student experience 'league table'

EDGE Hill is one of only two universities in the North West to secure a top-20 place out of 116 universities in a national league table of student experience voted for by students.

The Ormskirk campus sits within the top sixth of all those surveyed in the Times Higher Education (THE) Student Experience Survey 2018.

It has also secured a top four position for its accommodation and been voted the seventh safest university in the country.

Edge Hill's "high-quality" facilities have also been recognised, with a top eight mark for sports and learning facilities, "good library and opening hours, cheap shop and centralised amenities."

Vice-chancellor, Dr John Cater, said: "To be in the national top 10 for accommodation, amenities, learning services, sports facilities, safety and cost of living and in the top two in the region for all aspects of our student experience is another strong commendation for Edge Hill University as we continue to further enhance our reputation as a leading provider of higher education."

Edge Hill also secured a joint position with Durham University in the top 20 for its academic experience, achieving, "excellent marks for having high-quality staff and lectures, well-structured courses, tuition in small groups and a fair workload."

Vice-chancellor Dr John Cater: "This is another strong recommendation for Edge Hill University"

MP welcomes plan for new medical school on campus

ROSIE Cooper has welcomed the news that Edge Hill University is to host a new medical school to train doctors.

The West Lancs MP, who lobbied for and wrote in support of the university's application to be considered for the new training facility, said: "I am delighted for Edge Hill University that their success is being recognised by the General Medical Council.

"Having supported the bid, I believe it will help to address local healthcare challenges and workforce shortages in the health sector.

"The provision of medical education in West Lancashire will allow local young people, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds and underrepresented groups, to study medicine which will benefit our local hospitals."

Heritage group talk

ROGER Frost will give an illustrated talk entitled *The Monastic Wealth in Early Modern Lancashire and Yorkshire* at the next meeting of the Burscough Heritage Group.

This will be held at the Blue Mallard on Burscough Wharf on Monday April 9, starting at 7.30pm.

All are welcome to attend for a £2 donation. For more information contact Colin Wareing on 07931 356204.

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Martin Mere news

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Black Swan Cygnets hatch at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre

Three black swan cygnets have hatched at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre just in time for Easter!

The cygnets hatched on 20 March and can be seen with their parents in the Weird or Wonderful area of the grounds.

Nick Brooks, Centre Manager, said: "Even though Easter is a little bit early this year, we are already seeing lots of activity in the breeding season – not only do we have these three cygnets, but we also have nine Hawaiian geese goslings (Nenes) and a cape barren gosling is also due to hatch imminently. Add these to the wild birds: moorhens, mallard and shelduck, all nest building we are expecting very good season for nesting birds and it is great that all the families visiting us over Easter will see these cute cygnets."

The black swan is a large black waterbird with a distinctive red bill, a species of swan which breeds mainly in the southeast and southwest regions of Australia. The male is slightly bigger than the female, with a straighter bill, which is the only way to tell them apart. We will leave the cygnets to be reared by their parents.

Normal admission charges apply to enter WWT Martin Mere.

WWT Martin Mere is open every day from 9.30am to 6pm and parking is free of charge. Situated off the A59, it is signposted from the M61, M58 and M6. The Centre is also accessible via the Southport to Manchester and the Liverpool to Preston line by train from Burscough Rail Stations. Visit the web site http://www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere/ to find out what's on all year round at Martin Mere and the other eight centres.

Visit the web site www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere to find out what's on the reserve at the moment as well as all the upcoming events

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June opening date confirmed for new Magull rail station

THE first services from the new Maghull North railway station will run from Monday, June 18.

The opening date was confirmed as the first of several community projects involving local groups and schools was unveiled at the station site.

After the unveiling, Rob Grey, Network Rail project manager for the scheme, gave a presentation about the work involved in building a new station and the jobs and skills needed to work in the rail industry and railway safety, followed by a question and answer session.

Andy Heath, managing director of Merseyrail, said: "We are really looking forward to welcoming Maghull North station on to the Merseyrail network. It will make our network much more accessible for those living nearby and it's great to see the station already becoming part of the community with the artwork that has been created by local schools."

Rob Grey, added: "The new station forms part of a massive £340m railway investment in the Liverpool City Region which is about boosting connectivity and capacity - making room for new, longer trains, with more space for passengers."

Facilities at the new station will include staffed station building and ticket office with passenger toilet; passenger waiting facilities on the platforms; step-free access with lifts and a bridge to, from and between both platforms and the station building; 156-space car park with blue badge and motorcycle parking facilities, as well as cycle storage; pedestrian and cycle routes from School Lane and Park Lane to the station, and bus stops on School Lane.

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Wellbeing Centre in plea for community fundraising support

Report by **Kenny Parker**

STAFF at Age UK's Wellbeing Centre in Ormskirk are appealing for fundraising support to ensure the centre's visitors are able to continue to benefit from the variety of fun activities that take place there each week.

The centre hosts activities which include line dancing, computer classes, tea dances and exercise sessions and is very popular amongst the older population in the area.

David Ward form Age UK Lancashire says: "The centre here in Ormskirk really is a fantastic place for people to come along and look forward to weekly activities.

"It's a real hub of the community and not only do we have regular activities but this centre also hosts special events throughout the year which everyone can enjoy."

Whilst the future of the centre isn't currently in doubt, Age UK Lancashire is appealing to local people to come forward and donate what they can to support the continued success of the centre.

David Ward added: "Recently Councillor Adrian Owens has come forward to offer his support by pledging to match fund up to £300 for this appeal.

"Adrian has always been a loyal supporter of our work and the centre and has previously made personal donations to us. We thought this time we would try to make more impact by getting the local community involved to fundraise for us too."

The team at the centre will be looking at special events and raffles over the coming months to generate as many donations as possible, which the charity will use to benefit the centre and its users.

Derby ward reprsentative for independent group Cllr. Owens said: "The Wellbeing Centre provides hugely valuable services for older people in Ormskirk and the wider area. If we want the centre to survive and thrive, then as a community we need to support it. That's why I continue to look to ways I can help."

Councillor Adrian Owens presents a cheque to Donna Studholme from Age UK Lancashire

A webpage has been set up at www.wonderful.org for people to make online donations directly to Age UK Lancashire, simply by registering and selecting the charity.

The centre also supports people living with dementia and their carers through the Dementia Community Links project.

For more information on the service Age UK Lancashire provide call 0300 303 1234.

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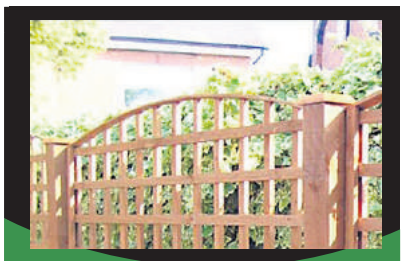

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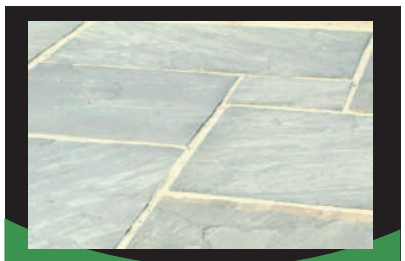

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Churches come together for Good Friday service

CLERGY from different denominations gathered together to lead Good Friday reflections at the Clock Tower in Ormskirk.

The service was preceded by the annual 'Walk of Witness', organised by Ormskirk Churches Together, through the town centre.

Among those attending the service was Canon Ross Moughtin who has recently announced that he is retiring as vicar of Christ Church, Aughton, his final service in post being on Sunday, April 8.

Also in attendance was the Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Neil Furey.

● Left: Local clergy conduct the Good Friday open-air service in Ormskirk town centre.

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New vicar at St John the Baptist Church

AS one church leader prepares his last sermon as vicar of one local church a new minister is set to deliver his first to the parishioners of another.

Canon Ross Moughtin is retiring as vicar of Christ Church, Aughton and his final service in post will be on Sunday, April 8 at 10.45am.

Meanwhile a new vicar has been installed at St John the Baptist Church, Burscough, at a service officiated by the Bishop of Liverpool, the Right Reverend Paul Bayes.

St John's has been without a vicar since the passing of Reverend Simon Glynn last summer following a short illness. The role has now been filled by Reverend Canon David Banbury, who was previously an army chaplain and most recently Diocesan Missioner in Blackburn Diocese.

Reverend Banbury, who is originally from Durham, is also a playwright and theatre lover and had one of his plays performed at last year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Addressing his new congregation he said: "Thank-you so much for the invitation to be Vicar of St John the Baptist Burscough. I am thrilled by the opportunity to serve amongst you and to work alongside a great team."

Reverend Canon David Banbury is welcomed by Archdeacon Venerable Jennifer McKenzie and the Bishop of Liverpool, Right Reverend Paul Bayes

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County council information event for prospective adopters

LANCASHIRE County Council is staging another of its information evenings aimed at helping people considering adoption find out about the process involved.

This will be held at County Hall, on Fishergate, Preston, on Tuesday, April 10 from 6 to 7.30pm.

There's no need to book, people can just turn up, but early arrival is recommended so that the presentation can start promptly. People attending are also asked to stay for the whole session.

The council is focussing on two different types of adoption, so that more babies and young children can go to live with their permanent family more quickly.

Personal qualities

Best for Baby (concurrent placements) place babies and young children, aged up to two, with foster carers who may go on to give them a permanent home.

Better Beginnings (the fostering-for-adoption scheme) is for children where there is no realistic prospect of a return to their birth family.

County Councillor Susie Charles, Lancashire's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "We're looking for people from all backgrounds to offer a permanent home and family to children who are not able to live with their birth family.

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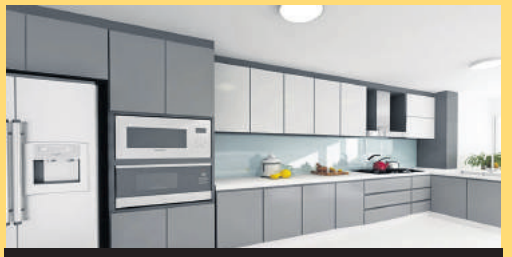

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Pot holes are not repaired properly

Re: The article headed 'Repairs have gone to pot' (Champion, March 14) having read Councillor Keith Iddon's response to the so-called 'repair' to this particular pot hole, I find it amazing how he can condone such appalling workmanship.

The 'repairs' have clearly been done wrong in the first place.

The sub-surface should have been - if wet - dried with propane burners and then primed so that the new tarmacadam would adhere.

Mr Iddon also points out that the weather at the end of 2017 caused the problems with the pot holes.

It probably did but this pot hole was "repaired" in early March.

Eric Ormesher,
Burscough

All should pay for new bins or no one should

THE reason why West Lancashire Council wants to change the colours for recycling bins is to save money.

If the council had decided that it wanted brown bins for cardboard/paper then every household would need one, but by swapping the colours around only those households using the garden waste scheme would need a brown bin.

This brings me to a very sore point. Those already using the scheme will get free brown bins, but in very small print, those who wish to join the scheme from now on with have to pay for them.

Why?

Surely all West Lancs residents should be treated the same when they wish to purchase a council service?

So all should pay for their new brown bins to use the garden waste scheme, or no one pays.

I am a keen recycler but think that I might put any garden waste that is not suitable for the compost bin or shredding into the grey bin.

That might put the cat among the pigeons.

**Hazel Anderton,
Halsall**

Money could have gone on something more useful

I CANNOT understand how West Lancashire Council come up with some of their ideas.

We are seeing the council tax increase by by 5.65% and are told the council is short of money.

Yet if you have paid for your green bin last year you are getting a free brown bin!

That means yet another eyesore outside our houses and on the street.

And where is the money coming from to fund these thousands of brown bins? I think it's from that 5.65% increase so we are all paying for everyone's free brown bins.

Not only are they wasting our money on freebies, they are also going to pay for a leaflet to explain the change of use of your ever-increasing bin collection to every household.

This is more money out of the council tax that could have been spent on something useful.

Chris Gradwell,
By email

PICTURE of the week

There were shrieks of delight as children tumbled down a giant slide which was on of the attractions at an Easter Saturday family fun day out hosted by Southport's Lakeside Church. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Thanks, folks for all your support over the year

WEST Lancashire Pensioners Forum wish to express their gratitude and thanks for the financial support they have received over the last year, in the form of grants awarded by the following people, without whom we would be required to finance every trip and function, possibly creating hardship for the group as a whole.

We would like to say thank-you to county councillors Azhar Ali, Nikki Hennessy, Joan Burrows, Terry Aldridge and Malcolm Barron and borough councillors Clair Cooper and Julie Gibson.

Although we are a non-political and non-religious group you were willing to help us.

Other awards were made to us by Age UK and The John Laing Foundation and we now hold our monthly meetings in St Ann"s Parochial Hall without any charge, due to the generosity of parish priest, Father Godric Timney.

Once again a massive thank-you to you all for helping to give nearly 80 elderly citizens, another focus in life.

The meetings are held every third Tuesday in the month at 1.30pm in the above venue, with discussions and speakers and concluding with tea and biscuits.

Membership is £10 per year and all senior citizens are welcome.

**Officers, committee and members of
West Lancashire Pensioners Forum**

Grateful for coverage of this important issue - and Colin's efforts in achieving victory for campaign

RE: Aughton land development victory, thank-you for the high-profile front-page coverage reporting (Champion, March 28) on this important issue.

It is indeed a great victory and relief.

And I would like to publicly thank Colin Atkinson, chairman of the Aughton Residents Group, for his efforts in achieving this.

Whilst others have lost hope, myself included at times, Colin has never relented and given up the fight - a difficult fight that has spanned many years!

Without his dedication and drive, along with the support of the council, I'm sure the developers would be building on that site by now.

Our vigilance must continue on this matter as I'm sure the developers will not give up trying to make millions out of this prime land.

In the words of Colin 'onwards and upwards!'.

**Michaela Riches, member of the
Aughton Residents Group**

More bins means more obstacles on the street for the elderly, disabled and young to negotiate

I READ with some dismay Councillor Kevin Wilkie's new plans for the collection of garden waste, the introduction of yet another bin, this time brown, and his expectation that West Lancs residents will happily and thoroughly clean out the existing green bins so that they can be used for the disposal of paper and cardboard.

As I already compost garden waste, papers and card, I will not be paying for the service or the brown bin. I do object to more bins being left out on the streets though.

On recycle day there is the potential for three bins to many properties and those who have two garden bins will have four out - all blocking the pavements so that wheelchair-users, like my family member, are forced into the roads.

Indeed a near neighbour will have two green bins for all his cardboard, two brown bins for his garden waste and a blue bin for his recycling. As there is no pavement outside his property that means five bins on the road.

It isn't just wheelchair users affected. What about the sight-impaired people with their guide dogs? I see, on a regular basis, one sight-impaired person being taken out into the middle of the road by the guide dog and into oncoming traffic because of the ridiculous amount of cars and other vehicles parked up on pavements.

The dog goes around the bins too and we're not talking about just one more bin but many more bins on every street.

Then there are the kids, to and from school, little ones, with their mothers who are often pushing prams too. Small children on their scooters and bikes, forced into the road.

Elderly, with mobility problems, the list goes on.

A list that Kevin Wilkie just hasn't considered, but then why would he? He's not paid to think of us, the public. He's paid to come up with yet more ridiculous ways of wasting the taxpayers' money.

A.S., details supplied

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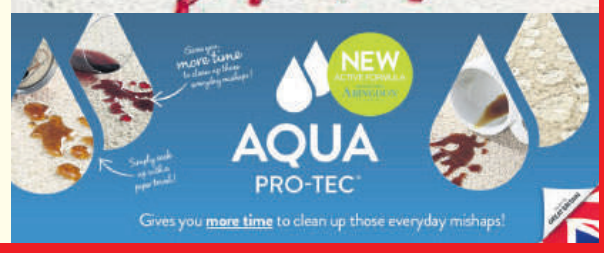

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'Disney On Ice' winners

THE lucky winners of the Champion's recent Disney On Ice competition were Lorraine Marcall, Walton; Julie Pallett, Parbold; Grace Taylor, Southport; Mrs K.Woodward, Skelmersdale and Geraldine Logan, Ormskirk.

They each receive four tickets for the Disney spectacular opening at the Liverpool Echo Arena on Wednesday, April 11.

Correct answer to the question: 'What year was Walt Disney born?' was 1901.

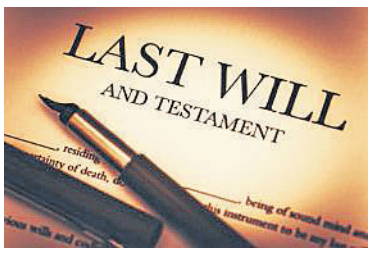
New friends group

A NEW social group has been started up for people in the Ormskirk, Skelmersdale and Wigan areas. Geared towards men and women in their 20s and 30s, organisers of the Meetup group say it aims to help people make new friends. For more details go to www.meetup.com/skelmersdale-wigan-ormskirk-20s-30s.

Where there's a will there's a way to give hospice a donation!

QUEENSCOURT Hospice is holding its Make A Will Month throughout April.

The hospice provides support for the people of West Lancs, Southport and Formby caring for patients with serious illnesses, enabling them to achieve the best possible quality of life at each new stage.



Queenscourt Hospice is holding a Make A Will Month appeal for donations

Staff have joined forces with local solicitors who have donated their time free of charge in return for donations to the charity in Town Lane, Southport,

If you have not already made an appointment, there is still time and limited availability with some practices.

Making a will ensures that your loved ones are provided for as you wish. Unless you make a will, you cannot guarantee that your estate will be distributed as you desire. There is no obligation for you to include a gift to the hospice in your will, however, any gift made to a UK-registered charity, such as Queenscourt, will be tax-free and may help reduce the amount of inheritance tax loved ones would otherwise have to pay.

Solicitors taking part in the scheme are based in Formby, Southport and West Lancs. They will not charge for their time but instead will ask for a suggested donation to Queenscourt - £90 for a basic single will, £135 for a joint will, or £40 for a codicil to an existing will.

A spokesperson for the hospice said: "All donations to Queenscourt are invaluable in enabling us to continue providing the highest standard of end-of-life care for our patients and their families.

"Making a will doesn't have to be daunting, the participating solicitors will guide you through the process, ensuring your family is looked after.

"We thank the solicitors and members of the public supporting the scheme for their fantastic support."

For details of participating solicitors, visit the hospice website at www.queenscourt.org.uk.

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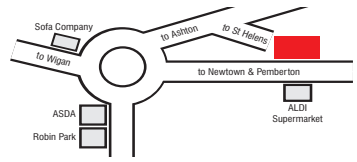

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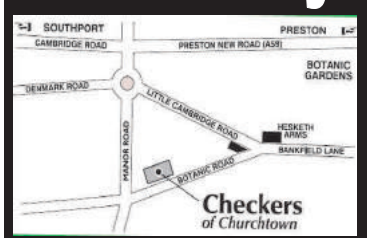

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Spring sprung a snowy surprise on our Easter boating holiday

BY the time you read this Easter will have passed and spring will have been around officially for two or three weeks.

The problem is of course that no-one has told the weather about all this.

Last I heard, snowfall was still being expected, in parts of Scotland at least, and the last time I travelled by bus to Southport folk were huddled against the biting wind at the bus stop and wiping condensation off the bus windows so they could watch the dreary scene outside.

Of course, this is not a new phenomenon, much as I would like to blame it on Global Warming or Brexit.

I well remember several years ago now, when my mum was still alive, being down on our boat in Norfolk over the Easter weekend. Mum, my brother George, myself and of course the two dogs (it was Tina and Buttons then in the pre-Cinders era) had arrived on the Thursday and arranged to meet two friends of ours at moorings adjacent to a riverside hostelry on Good Friday evening.

They duly turned up - as I remember it was a somewhat overcast and rather chilly evening, but quiet and peaceful. We had a few drinks and a convivial supper and retired to our bunks for the night.

We awoke to a completely changed world. There was - and I kid you not - a good two-and-a-half inches of snow covering the decks and roof, and what had been a large grassy area beside us had been transformed into something deep and crisp and even!

Now, at that time and place this was a novel attraction which improved our short break if only because of its being so unexpected. Nevertheless, as spring, it had undoubtedly sprung a leek.

I must confess that over the past two or three years, being the sole human in a crew of three on my boat, *Manxman*, I have become a tad more circumspect about when we go down to the Broads. In the 'old days' with brother George as chief engineer and supplier of sometimes needed muscle, we used to start our boating season a couple of weeks before Easter so as to miss the crowds.

But, after fighting gales and lashing winds alone (the 'crew' are both barking mad) in early/mid-March and facing iced up waterways and freezing extremities in November, I have revised my cruising dates to from mid-April until mid-October.

It's not cowardice, it's common sense. A lesson I learned the hard way. Broken equipment and scuffed fingers are not really fun, no matter how hard I might have tried to make them so.

Meanwhile, back in the 'real' world, I was saddened to hear this week of the death of Sir William McAlpine, aged 82, great-grandson of Robert McAlpine, 'Concrete Bob' whose belief in the worth of this hard stuff resulted in the construction of many magnificent bridges and tunnels, particularly in Scotland.

But Sir William (who incidentally opened the beautifully rebuilt railway station at Ormskirk) was first and foremost a businessman, running a construction and civil engineering empire, and one who gives the lie to those who look upon all such people as grasping and selfish.

In one field alone - one that I know a little about - Sir William was the man who saved the magnificent icon, the *Flying Scotsman,* for posterity when this British icon was marooned in the USA facing an uncertain future.

He did the same for the historic Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch narrow-gauge railway and willingly helped, with advice and encouragement, as well as financial backing, many other projects. So, I salute you, Sir William, long may people remember you fondly.

Right, back to the here and now...

Whether it is truly spring or not, inevitably the weather must soon cheer up, which means folk will be leaving our sunny shores in droves for their holidays, while I and my trusty 'sea dogs' will be blissfully afloat in watery Norfolk and Suffolk.

A workman is dwarfed by the crane used to lift a series of modular buildings into place to expand A&E facilities at Southport Hospital

Giant crane hoists new A&E modules into place

A 60-FOOT crane dominated the skyline at Southport Hospital when it was used to install a new extension to the A&E department.

The crane lifted four ready-built modules into place to create an eight-bay extension to the department which treats patients from West Lancashire.

The extension is part of a £1.25m improvement project to create a better caring and working environment for patients and staff. Further A&E bays will be created in the main hospital building.

County to benefit from new pathology diagnostic service

HEALTH services in the county have been given a boost following the announcement that the Government is to invest in a state-of the-art single pathology diagnostic service for the region.

Lancashire and South Cumbria will receive funding to support a £31 million scheme to create a single pathology diagnostic service between Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust, East Lancashire Hospitals Trust and Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Bowling club offers free taster sessions

ORMSKIRK Bowling Club is offering free taster sessions for would-be new members unfamiliar with the subtleties of crown green bowling.

Taster sessions for all the family will be held at the club in Altys Lane, behind Ormskirk Cricket Club, on Saturday, April 7 starting at 10.30am and 2pm.

All equipment will be provided - just wear flat shoes or trainers - and there's no need to book.

The club is also starting junior sessions (for ages 7 to 16) on Thursday, April 5 at 6pm. Any young people are welcome to go along and give it a try.

For further information contact club secretary Ian Gill on 07500 918 081 or visit the website at www.ormskirkbowlingclub.wordpress.com. The club can also be found on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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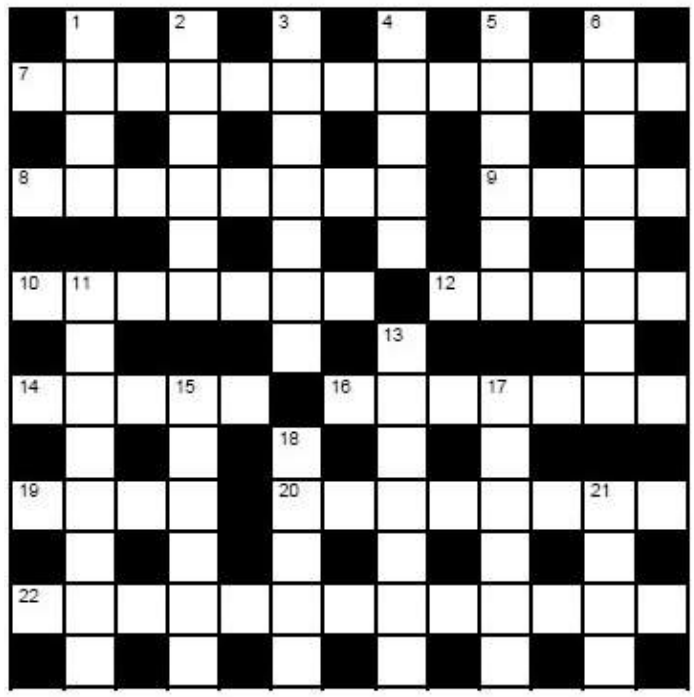

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Vagary. 8. A level. 9. Zany. 10. Tea towel. 11. Crucify. 13. Staid. 15. Thumb. 17. Bearded. 20. Zero hour. 21. Tuck. 22. Parent. 23 Troupe.

Down: 1. Bazaar. 2. Easy. 3. Mystify. 4. Fatal. 5. Sea otter. 6. Yemeni. 12. Composer. 14. Redruth. 16. Hee-haw. 18. Except. 19 Booty. 21. Thor.

ACROSS

7. Person whose job is to guard a building in the evening (5,8)
8. Fill to capacity (4,4)
9. Bicycle or motorcycle (4)
10. Convert waste into reusable material (7)
12. A person who believes that people are motivated purely by self interest (5)
14. Rental agreement (5)
16. Thin and bony (7)
19. Individual article or unit (4)
20. System of pipes, tanks, fittings, etc. for water supply, heating, and sanitation in a building (8)
22. Relating to the natural world and the impact of human activity on its condition (13)

DOWN

1. Movable frame on which a coffin or a corpse is placed before burial (4)
2. On friendly terms (6)
3. Very badly, unpleasantly (7)
4. Market stand or booth (5)
5. Plump and rounded (6)
6. Laughing in a loud, harsh manner (8)
11. Equestrian sport involving several disciplines (8)
13. Delicious (7)
15. The highest point of a hill or mountain (6)
17. Person or animal having a congenital absence of pigment in the skin and hair (6)
18. Parody (5)
21. A tide just after the first or third quarters of the moon when there is least difference between high and low water (4)

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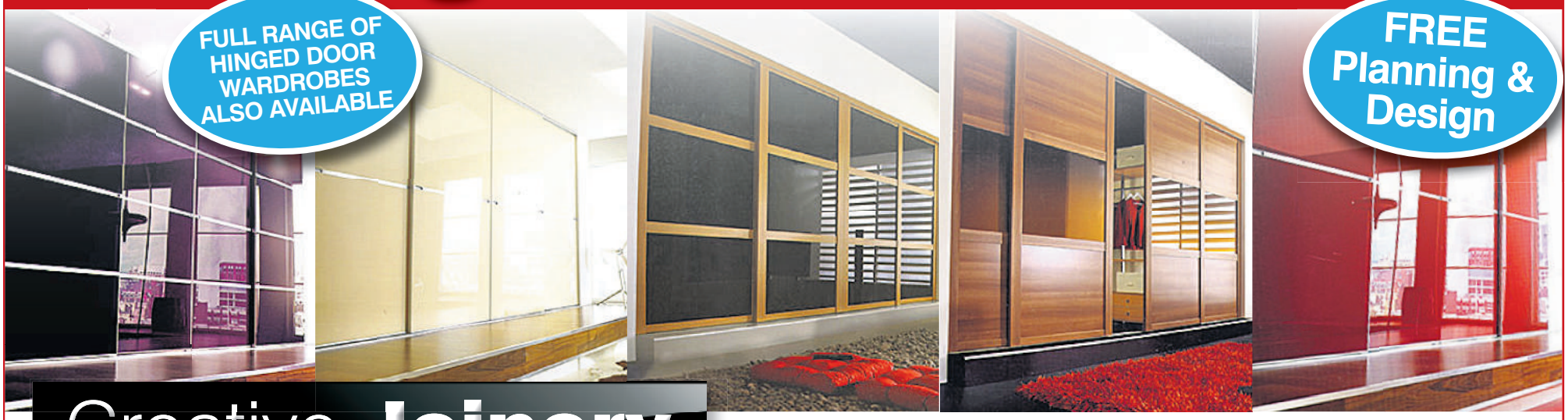

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MP calls for more support for young people with bladder and bowel issues

ROSIE Cooper delivered the keynote speech at the launch of a new report aimed at supporting children and young people with bladder and bowel issues.

The West Lancs MP, who serves as co-chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Continence Care, endorsed the report, *It happens to me too*, which found that support for the nearly 900,000 children and young people in the UK with these issues was inadequate and needs to be addressed urgently.

The report highlights the stigma around bladder and bowel issues with almost two thirds of young people embarrassed about seeing a doctor about continence issues resulting in a significant impact on their day-to-day lives.

Ms Cooper said: "It is believed there are more than 21 million people in the UK who suffer with bladder and bowel control problems, 900,000 of whom are children and young people.

"There is often a stigma associated with bladder and bowel problems, which impacts on the ability of children and young people to interact socially and live as independently as possible in their local communities. They face further challenges in gaining access to practical advice that explains what they should expect from their local health and social care services."

Rosie Cooper pictured at the launch of the report with Dr Penny Dobson of the Paediatric Continence Forum; Gerald Chan of Coloplast UK; and Juliette Randall, CEO of ERIC, The Children's Bowel and Bladder Charity

Recommendations in the report include:

- Swift implementation of Excellent in Continence Care (EICC) to deliver a clear framework for delivering high-quality bladder and bowel services including knowledge over patient rights and access to services.
- A community-based service covering day and night time wetting, soiling and constipation problems.
- Local services should seek to identify people with continence issues who may be at risk and offer a comprehensive assessment to look for 'red flags' indicating an underlying condition.
- Bladder and bowel services for young people should employ a paediatric continence nurse specialist.
- Local pathways should be implemented, through which healthcare professionals can refer young people on to other services if appropriate.

Rosie Cooper MP commented: "This report will be the first step in helping to improve the lives of the children, young people and their families affected by bladder and bowel problems.

"More must be done to ensure that the support that is needed to allow them to get on with their lives and realise their full potential is available to them, no matter where they live. I look forward to working with the groups involved in the report to take forward its recommendations."

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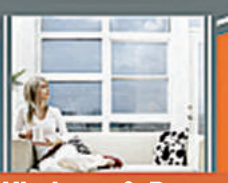
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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Multi Award Winning Local Slimming World Consultant

"After almost 25 years of helping people to lose weight - I've still got the best job in the world", says local Slimming World Consultant.

The idea of getting paid to something we truly love is the holy grail for most of us, however, a local weight loss Consultant says she's cracked it after a recent survey of 26,000 people on LinkedIn* revealed that having a sense of purpose is the number one requirement for job satisfaction.

Tina Whewell has run a Slimming World franchise since September 1993 after losing 2 stone herself with the weight loss organisation and changing her life. Since then, she's made it her mission to help others transform their lives.

"This really is the best job in the world as far as I'm concerned," says Tina, who runs successful groups at ***Ormskirk Rugby club every Wednesdays at 9.30am & 11.30am and 5.30pm & 7.30pm and Saturdays at 7.30am & 9.30am.***

"After spending most of my adult life convinced the only way to lose weight was to go hungry and be miserable, I actually thought I'd died and gone to heaven when I discovered with Slimming World I could still eat all my favourite foods, have a social life and lose weight. I also fell in love with whole ethos of the company and for the first time in my life I was able to remove any guilt normally associated with eating and weight loss.
I opened my first group in Ormskirk almost 25 years ago. I became a Senior Consultant in May 1998 and a Team Developer in 2007. I have also won some amazing holidays including a South African safari staying in Sun City - fabulous rewards just for being successful in a job I love.

The groups have had some fantastic life changing achievements over the years just a few examples being a member who lost 6st to enable her to adopt her daughter, a member who lost 4st and is no longer diabetic and most recently a member who has lost over 10 stone who was almost unable to walk and at risk of losing her legs who now walks every day - just because she can.

The LinkedIn research showed that people who have a real sense of purpose at work are much more likely to be happy in their job. The research also found that people whose role is based in the local community, who have their own business and who work in healthcare are all more likely to feel like they have a purpose in their work and Tina agrees, saying she's extra lucky as she has all three!

Tina adds "All of our Consultants originally joined us as Slimming World members, giving them an understanding of what it's like to struggle with their weight and all have had success on the plan. Personal qualities are so important and we look for warmth, energy and enthusiasm, good listening skills and, most importantly, a caring non-judgemental nature and a genuine desire to help people lose weight – giving people the confidence to achieve their dreams is our ultimate mission and you don't get a better sense of purpose than that!"

So if you want to lose weight in the easiest way possibly with a local slimming expert call Tina on 07855 097585 or pop along to any of her warm and friendly groups.

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MONDAY

LYDIATE
Lydiate Village Centre,
Lambshear Lane
9am & 11am
Paula: 07484 263698

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre,
Lyndhurst
11am & 1pm
Sue: 07817 444580

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre,
Lyndhurst
3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sue: 01695 420 305

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines
(behind Fun Factor)
6.30pm
Michelle: 07931 125172

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
9.30am & 11.30am
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
5pm & 7pm
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club,
Blaguegate Lane
5pm & 7pm
Paula: 07484 263698

TUESDAY

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club,
Blaguegate Lane
9am & 11am
Paula: 07484 263698

WEDNESDAY

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club,
Green Lane
9.30 & 11.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club,
Green Lane
5.30 & 7.30pm
Tina: 0151 548 4266

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
(behind Fun Factor)
4.30 & 6.30pm
Emma: 07414 223 617

UP HOLLAND
Up Holland Methodist Church,
Alma Hill
9.30am
Sarah: 07969 395302

UP HOLLAND
Up Holland Methodist Church,
Alma Hill
3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Sarah: 07969 395302

BURSCOUGH
Burscough Cricket Club
School Lane
3.30pm, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Kathy: 07815 199346

THURSDAY

AUGHTON
Aughton Village Hall,
Winifred Lane
8.00am & 10.00am
Zoe: 01695 580 966

AUGHTON
Scout and Guide Hut
(behind Christ Church),
Long Lane
5.30 & 7.30pm
Zoe: 01695 580 966

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
(behind Fun Factor)
3.00pm 5:00pm & 7.00pm
Sue: 07957 531346

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre,
Birleywood
9.30am & 11.30am
Jackie: 07888 830892

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre,
Birleywood
4.30pm & 6.30pm
Sarah: 07792 146342
NEW CONSULTANT

FRIDAY

ORMSKIRK
New Pavilion
Ormskirk Cricket Club
Altys Lane
9am
Zoe: 01695 580966

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
(behind Fun Factor)
9:30am & 11:30am
Sue: 07957 531346

SATURDAY

OLD SKELMERSDALE
Greenhill Community Room
Beech Close
(Off Lancaster Cres)
8am & 10am
Sarah: 07969 395302

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club
Green Lane
7.30am & 9.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266
NEW CONSULTANT

ORMSKIRK
St Anne's School,
Aughton Street, Ormskirk
10.30am & 12.30pm
Sue: 07817 444580

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
(behind Fun Factor)
Saturday 9am & 11am
Gill: 07921 222405

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Still time to enjoy Easter activities at Chapel Gallery and Tree House

THERE'S still time to catch fun activities during the Easter holiday break at the Chapel Gallery in Ormskirk and The Tree House, Sandy Lane Centre, Skelmersdale.

On Friday, April 6 from 11am to 3pm, children can enjoy free, Easter-themed 'making' activities at the Tree House - but you are advised to book on 07860 617353 to be sure of a place.

Meanwhile at the Chapel Gallery in St Helens Road, Ormskirk until Saturday, April 7 there will be a range of free Easter-themed creative activities.

There will also be a programme of professional-led sessions for families and children.

Audiences will be taken on a magical journey of storytelling, puppetry and music with the Lempen Puppet Theatre's 'Cardboard Carnival' show at 2pm today (Wednesday, April 4).

Celebrate

The show is recommended for children aged four to 10 and over, and tickets cost £4 each or £15 for a family ticket for two adults and two children or one adult and three children.

Then on Thursday, April 5 children aged eight and over can celebrate the arrival of spring by making leafy clay sculptures of the fabled Green Man at the 'Green Man Sculptures' event with Sarah Jane Richards.

Sessions cost £4 per child per session and take place between 10am and midday and from 1 to 3pm.

Children do not need a parent or other adult with them to attend.

And there is a free Easter Egg Hunt at the Chapel Gallery every day until Friday, April 6. Find all the eggs and claim a prize.

To book places at any of these events contact the Chapel Gallery on 01695 571328 or email chapel.gallery@westlancs.gov.uk.

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FOCUS ON WEDDINGS

Are you getting married this year or next? Well congratulations! What a fabulous time to be planning a wedding. With a royal wedding right around the corner, the country has gone wedding mad! Gone are the days of stuffy traditions and stressful plans to please everyone but yourself. We now welcome an age where the sky really is the limit. A wedding is not about going through the motions and following the so called "wedding rule book" (unless that's your thing of course) It's about throwing the rule book out of the window and celebrating your uniqueness and the special quirks that make you such an amazing couple. Having said that, too much choice can sometimes be a little daunting so the aim here is to narrow down some of the trends that we feel will be huge this year, and hopefully help you work out what will make your special day truly amazing!

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DECOR

2017 was the year of the unicorn, the mermaid and anything iridescent, and with Pantone's colour of the year this year being ultra violet, we are going to see a lot of colour. The past few years have seen a lot of greenery, nudes and blush pinks and these colours are still bang on trend and completely timeless but do not be afraid to play around with colour, or not have a colour scheme at all! Bright florals mixed with softer pastel tones look amazing and completely summery.

Wedding décor seems to be using a lot of Asian influences at the moment with bold colours and opulent golds. Use colour where it is least expected, with coloured glass vases or wine glasses, charger plates or napkins. Ask a venue stylist how to add splashes of colour to your chairs or hire a brightly coloured aisle runner to make your wedding dress pop.

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WEDDING ATTIRE

Last year we saw dresses with clean lines, simple detailing and totally chic. This year we are seeing more fun, flirty silhouettes. Lots of textures and layers of fabric to add more dimension to your dress and give your guests something different to look at from every angle. We are seeing a lot more of a natural waist line or dropped waist line, with brides opting for a modern take on a traditional dress crochet lace, caviar detailing and sleeves are all the rage. Colourful dresses in soft blues, blushes and lavenders are a way to make you stand out from the crowd. Designers such as Hayley Paige, Berta Bridal and Pronovias are dominating the runway with their fun, fresh, modern but totally glam designs!

And it's not just the brides having all the fun now. We have seen a sharp rise in alternative Male fashion with grooms choosing to avoid renting the same suits and instead opting to express their personalities through their attire. After all, it's their special day too! We are seeing a lot more braces, floral ties and dicky bows, coloured shirts and accessories such as hats, funky shoes and socks and amazing buttonholes. Don't just think flowers for buttonholes, there are some fabulous ways of making buttonholes from things that mean something special to you. Have a look online for inspiration.

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FOOD AND DRINK

The main thing guests remember about a wedding are the dress, the entertainment, the special touches and the food. It is one of the main parts of the wedding day so let your personalities shine through on your menu. Maybe you are honeymooning in Greece, or the first holiday you took together was in Spain? So why not serve your guests Spanish tapas or Greek kebabs. Maybe you both have a passion for Mexican food and therefore don't be afraid to serve tacos or burritos! Remember, it's your day and you should eat what you love. Most of your guests will appreciate something a little different. Most reputable wedding venues will be flexible with their menus and will cater to your requirements so don't be afraid to ask! Food trucks are still a big favourite and vintage ice cream trucks can be great fun in the summer. Want to add some more personal touches? How about a scotch and cigar bar for the men? Or maybe you are huge coffee fans. Hire a barista to serve your guests amazing coffee after the meal to help perk everyone up and get the party started.

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Next Open Evenings Tuesday 1st May & 5th June • Call 01695 423328
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ENTERTAINMENT

Theme bands are still huge this year such as Ragtime, Blues and Motown but if your budget won't stretch to a 5 piece or you're not really into that sort of thing, specialist event companies hire out DJs with bongo drums and saxophone accompaniment to transport your guests to the shores of Ibiza. Funky, cool and a little easier on your Nan's ears! Entertainment can take up a huge part of your budget so when working out how best to spend it, try mentally walking through your day and picture what your guests will be doing and envisage where the flat parts are likely to be. In my experience, this will likely be after the meal and before your evening guests arrive. This can be a bit of an awkward part of the day. Everyone is generally a bit full, tired and needs a freshen up so why not hire a singer or ask your band if they will offer an acoustic set to warm your guests up for the party? Perhaps you have a lot of friends and family coming that haven't properly met one another and you are worried about them mingling or breaking the ice? Have you considered hiring a specialist wedding host to entertain your guests throughout the day and add a fun element to the wedding breakfast with games and quizzes? Wedding hosts have had a bit of a bad rap over the years and can come across as dare I say it cheesy, so when choosing a host, make sure they have a show reel of their work and make sure you have built up a good relationship with them first.

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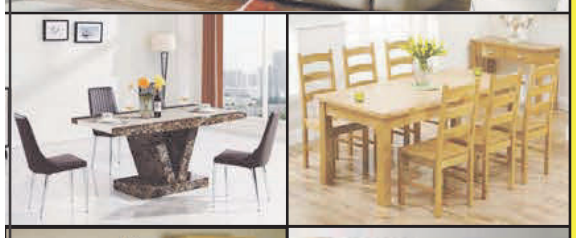

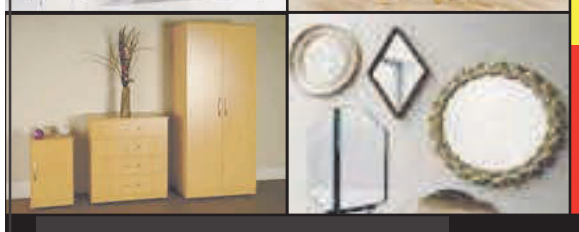

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Poet to bring her new show to The Arts Centre

AWARD-WINNING poet and playwright Lizzie Nunnery, who is from Maghull, will bring her new show to The Arts Centre at Edge Hill University on April 13, inspired by iconoclastic Mersey Sound poet Adrian Henri.

Described as a 'modern day Under Milk Wood', Horny Handed Tons of Soil explores how the landscape of Liverpool 8 - the same area that recently featured on the BBC's hit TV show A House Through Time-has changed over the past 50 years.

Horny Handed Soil blends spoken word, live music and film and is written and performed by Lizzie Nunnery (Winner of UK Theatre's Best New Play award for Narvik), alongside musicians Martin Heslop, Martin Smith and Vidar Norheim.

The show is produced by maverick spoken word outfit Phrased & Confused and Liverpool's Unity Theatre.

Lizzie said: "For a long time I've been performing live as a musician and incorporating spoken word in to my set, but the length of this piece meant I could go much further in crafting a narrative, exploring Liverpool 8 and sparking off the Mersey poets' renderings of the city.

"It's been wonderful working with composers Vidar Norheim, Martin Heslop & Martin Smith alongside videographer Tim Brunsden and designer Laura Lomax to push the piece beyond a poem set to music, turning it in to a cross disciplinary show with all the energy of a gig and the inventiveness of a happening. I like to think Adrian Henri would approve of the experiment!"

Lizzie Nunnery

Comedy tells story of Lennon's banjo

THE countdown is now on until audiences in Liverpool can experience a new stage comedy telling the story of John Lennon's missing childhood banjo.

A mix of fact and fiction, Lennon's Banjo is set in present day Liverpool and features an all-star cast.

It makes its world stage premiere at the city's Epstein Theatre on Tuesday, April 24, continuing through until Saturday, May 5.

The Beatles original drummer Pete Best, will play himself in three special performances of the show's two-week run.

Pete joins an all-star cast featuring a whole host of familiar faces –Eric Potts, Mark Moraghan, Jake Abraham, Lynn Francis, Danny O'Brien, Stephanie Dooley, Alan Stocks, and Roy Carruthers. Pete Best will appear as himself, with Alan Stocks portraying Pete Best in all other performances.

The quest is on to find the holy grail of pop memorabilia– the missing banjo on which John Lennon was first taught to play music by his mother Julia Lennon, who first introduced the youngster to rock and roll.

Mysteriously, the banjo went missing shortly after Julia's death. One thing is certain though, if it did resurface it is estimated to be worth in the region of five million pounds.

Pete Best at the Casbah - Picture by Helen A Jones

When Beatles tour guide Barry Seddon (Eric Potts) finds a letter written by John Lennon, he unearths a clue to solving the greatest mystery in pop history – the whereabouts of Lennon's first musical instrument which has been missing for 60 years. But Barry's loose tongue alerts Texan dealer Travis Lawson (Danny O'Brien) to the priceless relic.

In an attempt to get his hands on the letter and the clues, he persuades his wife Cheryl (Stephanie Dooley) to befriend the hapless tour guide and win his affections. The race to find Lennon's Banjo is on!

Historian heralds exhibition

TV HISTORIAN and broadcaster Michael Wood officially opened the Viking: Rediscover the Legend exhibition last Thursday (March 29) at The Atkinson and called it a "thrilling" display.

The event has come to Southport in partnership with the British Museum and the Yorkshire Museum.

Included in the exhibition is the largest Viking hoard known from Western Europe called the Cuerdale Hoard. It was found near the River Ribble in Lancashire and includes 7,500 coins and 1,200 pieces of bullion. The contents of the hoard weigh about 40kg and are thought to have come about through trading and looting.

There is also information on how local place names such as Ainsdale and Skelmersdale have had a Viking influence.

Among the highlights is a tiny bone plaque made by a Viking in the image of a Viking.

Michael Wood said: "It is a really thrilling exhibition. I have seen it twice on its rounds and it is even better here and would recommend more than one visit.

"The exhibition really conjures up the drama, the violence, the dynamism, the creativity of that extraordinary age. It brings to mind people's stories. The objects are made by people and worn by people and used by people. It looks at the lives of ordinary people as well as the heroes we all love so much.

"Looking at these exhibitions you can imagine the fear that was experienced by those people who saw the Viking invasions.

"The Cuerdale Hoard is one of the highlights of the exhibition. It was found in Lancashire and is the greatest-ever Viking hoard. People can also see the Silverdale Hoard as well. It is absolutely fantastic."

Michael Wood opens the Viking: Rediscover the Legend exhibition

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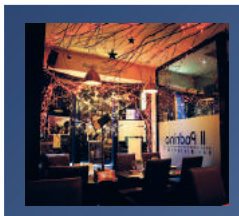

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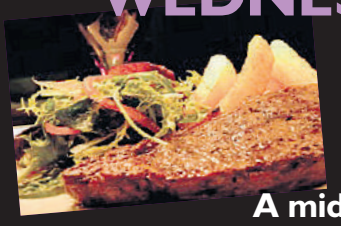

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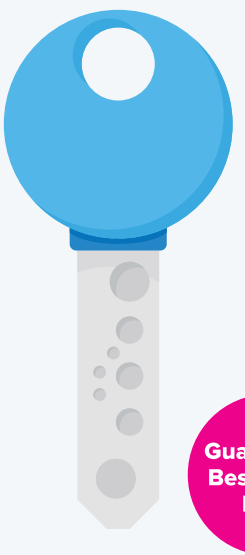
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Announcements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WILLS MARY

The family would like to thank all Family, Friends and Neighbours for all the many messages of condolence, sympathy cards, and donations for North West Cancer Research received during their recent sad loss of a much loved Mum and Nan. Grateful thanks to Father Bonifac for his kindness and lovely Funeral Mass, and a Special Thanks to Sally Hunter and all the team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for all their Wonderful care and compassion.

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PILKINGTON GLADYS MAY

The family of the late Gladys May Pilkington wish to express their deep appreciation to those who have offered such kindness, support and messages of sympathy and comfort in our bereavement. We especially wish to thank, all the staff at Ward 15A, Southport Hospital, Rev Sue and all Mum's friends at Emmanuel Church along with MLS Funeral Services. Brian, Beryl, Ruth, Helen and their families.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

JOHNSON GEORGE LEONARD

Pamela would like to express her sincere gratitude to all relatives, friends and neighbours for attending the funeral service and for their help and understanding shown at this sad time. Thank you for the kind messages of support and cards of condolence. Much appreciation is offered to the staff at Asmall Hall Nursing Home for the care Len received over the years and to John Milton for a lovely and comforting service. Many thanks to Derek Crawford and the team at Howard's Funeral Directors for the dignified funeral arrangements.

BASSETT BRIDIE

The family of the late Bridie Bassett would like to thank family and friends for all their support, messages of sympathy and donations to Alzheimer's Society received during the sad loss of a much loved Mum, Gran and Great Gran. Special thanks to Fr. John Heneghan of St. Patricks R.C. Church and Rosemary Purcell for their kind ministrations and everyone involved in the lovely service. Thank you to the staff of Good Companions Care Home for the care Bridie received. Also thank you to M. Rushton Funeral Directors for all the support and funeral arrangements.

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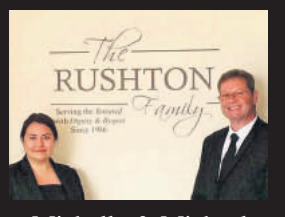

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22a, Liverpool Road North, Burscough, L40 5TP

PRAYERS

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published.

MD

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BIRTHS

Congratulations
to my
Grandaugher

MELISSA GEORGIOU
& Partner
KEVIN STOKES

On the safe arrival of their beautiful baby daughter

SCARLET

Born 21st March
Weighing in at 8lb 8oz

"First Great Grandchild"
for Nanny Holroyd
Love to you
from all the family
xxxxx

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IN MEMORIAM

TRENWITH VAL

Two years have lapsed since your passsing, there is still a voice missign from our house, a void that remains empty, a love that cannot be replaced. MEmories that will neevr fade, you're always in our thoughts, sleep tight our dearest Vallove
Jon and Susan-Ann

DEATHS

FAWBERT JOAN

27th March 2018
Aged 77 years
Passed away peacefully at Queenscourt Hospice after a long illness.

Beloved Sister of Kath, Bill, Jean and dear Sister-in-law of Margaret and Ed. Much loved Aunt, Great Aunt and Great Great Aunt. Joan will be greatly missed by all her loving family. Service at St John's Parish Church, Birkdale on Tuesday 10th April at 1:15pm followed by interment at Liverpool Road Cemetery. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Queenscourt Hospice. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

SWIFT EVA

27th March 2018
Peacefully at her home in Burscough
aged 89 years

The dearly loved Wife of the late Gerry, loving Mum of Martin and Christopher (deceased) and devoted Nana to all her Grand and Great Grandchildren. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Friday 6th April 2018 at 10:00am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for North West Cancer Research. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

MOYNIHAN SHEILA
of Aughton
Passed away Friday 23rd March 2018
Aged 87 years

Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium on Monday 9th April at 4pm. Family Flowers only please, but donations if desired to Medecins Sans Forntieres Further enquires to Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, Burscough Tel 01704 897770

WALSH TONY (Walshy)
Peacefully passed away in Hospital
aged 62 years
on 30/03/2018

Much loved Dad, Grandad, Brother & Uncle will be sadly missed by all. Funeral service to take place on Thursday 12th April at 3:20pm at Southport Crematorium. Family flowers only by request but family are gratefully receiving donations for Clare House Childrens Hospice. Further enquiries please to Co-Op Funeral Care, 22c Wigan Road, Ormskirk Tel: 01695 577244

CAMPBELL ANTHONY GUEST

25th March 2018
Aged 81 years

Beloved Husband of the late Julia also dearly loved Dad, Father-In-Law and Grandad. A Requiem Mass will be offered on Monday 9th April 2018 at St Peter's and St Pauls Church, Mawdesley at 10am. Followed by Interment in the church yard. No flowers by request, donations if desired to the R.N.L.I. C/o and all enquiries to W Banks Sefton Villa, Sefton Road, Orrell, WN5 8UP Tel: 01695 622 272

To place a family announcement please call 01704 392392

To place a family announcement please call 01704 392392

DEATHS

CROMBLEHOLME THOMAS (TOM)
Passed away peacefully on 27th March 2018

Devoted Husband to Vera and dearly loved Dad to Helen, Joan, David, Thomas, Roy, Ian and Brian. Special Father-In-Law to Jane, Cathy, Pauline, Shirley, Steve and the late John and dear Brother-In-Law to Maggie. Loving Grandad to Danielle, Liam, Michael, Tommy, Dettie, Bruce, James, Lauren, Paul, Sharon, Sylvia, Barry, Clare and Amanda. Great Grandad to Samantha, Taylor, Mason, David, Jack, Ellie, Kieran, Isabella and his soon to be born Great Grand Daughter. He will be missed by all those who loved him. Funeral Service at St Thomas Church, Lydiate at 11am on Monday 9th April followed by cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium. Family flowers only please but donations are welcomed for The Stroke Association c/o Graham J Clegg, Independent Funeral Service, 7 Dover Road, Maghull, L31 5JB Tel: 0151 520 3330

HUGHES CATHERINE MARY ANN

27th March 2018
Peacefully at Birch Green Care Home, Skelmersdale
aged 85 years

The dearly loved Wife of the late Norman, loving Mum of James, Alisdair, Norman and Fiona, devoted Grandma of Janine, Stuart, Emma, Calum, Tucker, Ben, Robbie, Ryan and Natalie and all her Great Grandchildren. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Wednesday 11th April 2018 at 1:45pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Dementia UK. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

MAWDSLEY JOYCE ELIZABETH
of Halsall.
Born 19th May 1936
Died 27th March 2018

Reunited with her loving Husband Alan, Mother of Angela and Paul, Nanna of Louise, Sean, Adam and Benjamin, Great Nanna of Amelia. She will be loved and missed by all. Funeral Service at St. Cuthbert's Church, Halsall, on Thursday 12th April 2018 at 11.15am, followed by committal at Southport Crematorium. Family flowers only please, donations if so desired for the Alzheimer's Society. Donations and further enquiries please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk, Tele: 01695 424888.

FYLES JOHN

After a short illness peacefully in hospital on 22nd March 2018
aged 86 years

Dearly beloved son of the late William and Margaret and much loved brother of the late Lilian. John will be sadly missed by all his family, friends and all who knew him. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Wednesday 11th April 2018 at 10am Family flowers only by request please but the family are receiving donations for Queenscourt Hospice. Further enquiries please to Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, Lancashire L40 5UU Tel 01704 897770.

DEATHS

ROSE JESSIE WINIFRED (NEE KEEFE)
29TH MARCH 2018
Peacefully at Aaron Crest Nursing Home Skelmersdale, formerly of Liverpool

Wife of the late Leonard Rose. Much loved and missed Mum of Michael, John, Robert, Stephen and partners. Adored Nan of Steven, Kirsty, Robert, Emma, Danielle and Great Grandma to Sophie. Funeral details to follow. Any further enquiries to Skelmersdale Funeral Services.

JONES ANTHONY (TONY)

14th March 2018
Aged 57 years

Loving Son of the late Ronnie and Ann, cherished Brother, Uncle, Brother In Law and Friend to many. Will be sadly missed by all family and friends. Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Friday 6th April at 10:45am. All enquiries Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

PEEL ERIC

On 23rd March 2018
Peacefully in Hospital
Aged 85 years

Loving Husband of the late Carole, devoted Dad of David, Diane, Wendy, Caroline and Shaun, cherished Grandad, Great-Grandad and Great-Great-Grandad of all his Grandchildren, will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Monday 9th April at 1:45pm, family flowers only please by request, donations if desired for The British Heart Foundation. All enquiries Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

DEATHS

WESTHEAD JOHN (JACK)
18th March 2018
Peacefully surrounded by his loving family
aged 82 years

Loving Husband of the late June, devoted Dad of Donna and Mandy, cherished Grandad and Great Grandpa of all his Grandchildren, dear Father in law of Ian and a friend to many, will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service will take place at Southport Crematorium on Tuesday 10th April at 2.00 pm, family flowers only please by request, donations if desired to Alzheimer's Society. All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

HALLETT JOHN EDWARD

26th March 2018
Peacefully at Home
Surrounded by his family

Much Loved Husband of Irene Loved Dad of Stephen, Pam and Neil. Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street Burscough on Thursday 5th April at 1.00pm. Family flowers only please but donations if desired for Woodlands Hospice c/o Graham J Clegg Funeral Service 7 Dover Road Maghull L31 5JB Tel 0151 520 3330

GILMOUR RONNIE

25th March 2018
aged 86 years

Beloved Husband of Anna, much loved Father of Joanne, Fee and Mike, Father-in-law of David and Sonia and Grandfather of Megan and Katie. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church Aughton on Friday 6th April at 2.45pm. Followed by cremation at West Lancs Crematorium. Donations please to Dementia UK. Enquiries to Devonport Funeral Services Tel: 01695 731199

DEATHS

HODGES MARGARET

27th March 2018
Peacefully at
Beaconview Care Home, Skelmersdale
aged 97 years

The dearly loved Wife of the late Jim, loving Mum of Frank & Pat, devoted Gran of Paul & Karen and Amanda & Michael and Great Gran to Thomas, James, Ben, Oliver and Emily. Funeral service at St Paul's Church, Skelmersdale on Tuesday 10th April 2018 at 10:00am followed by cremation at St Helens Crematorium. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Beaconview. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

WRIGHT JOSEPH (JOE)

Of your charity pray for the repose of the soul of Joseph
who passed away on 25th March 2018
aged 80 years

Dearly loved husband of Pat. Brother of Paddy, Mary, the late Tom, Paschal, Oliver, Ann, Vera and Michael, and a much loved uncle. 'Will be sadly missed' Requiem Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians R.C Church, Hesketh Lane, Tarleton on Friday 6th April 2018 at 10.30am followed by committal at Burscough Crematorium. Friends and family to meet at the church. Family flowers only please, donations, if desired, to Children With Cancer UK, c/o The Funeral Director, Neal Buckley Tarleton Funeral Home, 49 Church Road Tarleton Tel: 01772 301700

PUBLIC NOTICES

Department for Transport

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

The Secretary of State gives notice of an Order made under Section 247 of the above Act entitled "The Stopping up of Highways (North West) (No. 24) Order 2018" authorising the stopping up of three lengths of the unnamed footpath lying to the west of Evenwood Court and to the east of Northway (informally on the line of old Houghtons Lane) at Skelmersdale, in the Borough of West Lancashire. This is to enable development as permitted by West Lancashire Borough Council under reference 2017/0663/FUL.

Copies of the Order may be obtained, free of charge, from the Secretary of State, National Transport Casework Team, Tyneside House, Skinnerburn Road, Newcastle Business Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7AR or nationalcasework@dft.gsi.gov.uk (quoting NATTRAN/NW/S247/3196) and may be inspected during normal opening hours at Skelmersdale Library, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6NL.

Any person aggrieved by or desiring to question the validity of or any provision within the Order, on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the above Act or that any requirement or regulation made has not been complied with, may, within 6 weeks of **04 April 2018** apply to the High Court for the suspension or quashing of the Order or of any provision included.

D Hoggins, Casework Manager

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF MAKING
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(BRIARS LANE, COURSE LANE, LOWRY HILL LANE, NEWBURGH, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (REVOCATION AND INTRODUCTION OF 40 MPH SPEED RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2018

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on 28 March 2018 Lancashire County Council made the above Traffic Regulation Order under Section 84 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be to:

1. Revoke "The District Council Of West Lancashire (Briars Lane And Lowry Hill Lane, Burscough And Lathom) A5209 (40 M.P.H. Speed Limit) Order 1983" as set out below;
a. 40mph Speed Restriction, Briars Lane And Lowry Hill Lane, from a point 34 metres west of the centre point of Morton House Bridge to a point 165 metres west of the centre line of Moss Bridge Lane;
2. Introduce a 40mph speed restriction in the following lengths of road;
a. Briars Lane, Newburgh, from a point 135 metres south east of the centreline of the junction with Wheat Lane in a south easterly direction to its junction with Lowry Hill Lane;
b. Course Lane, Newburgh, from its junction with Lowry Hill Lane in a south easterly direction to a point 246 metres south east of the centreline of the junction with Back Lane;
c. Lowry Hill Lane, Newburgh, the entire length.

This Order will come into force on the 06 April 2018. A copy of the Order, and all other relevant documents may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of West Lancashire Borough Council, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2DF, and at the offices of the Director of Corporate Services, Lancashire County Council, County Hall, PO Box 78, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 8XJ, quoting ref: LSG4/894.3209/ML2

Laura Sales, Director of Corporate Services
04 April 2018

www.lancashire.gov.uk
Lancashire County Council

PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2018/0003/COU Change of use of barn to pet crematorium at Lime Tree Barn, 59 Winifred Lane, Aughton.
The application affects a Conservation Area.

2018/0041/FUL Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of two new residential dwellings. Conversion and additions to existing outbuilding to create a new dwelling, with associated works at 7 Church Road, Rufford.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.

2018/0218/FUL Replacement of an existing window 900mm W x 1500mm H with new double glazed window 4630mm W x 1500mm H to front elevation of existing private dwelling at 16 Granville Park, Aughton.
The application affects a Conservation Area.

2018/0283/FUL Single-storey extension to side at Westview, 14 Sandy Lane, Newburgh.
The application affects a Conservation Area.

The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI — Dated: 4th April 2018
Director of Development and Regeneration — PDNOT991

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JOSPICE LOTTERY WINNERS
Friday 29th March 2018

£1000.....Mrs Jones, Birkenhead
£250.....Mrs Hopfield, Thornton
£100.....Mr McCann, Harrogate
Plus 15 other winners of £10 each

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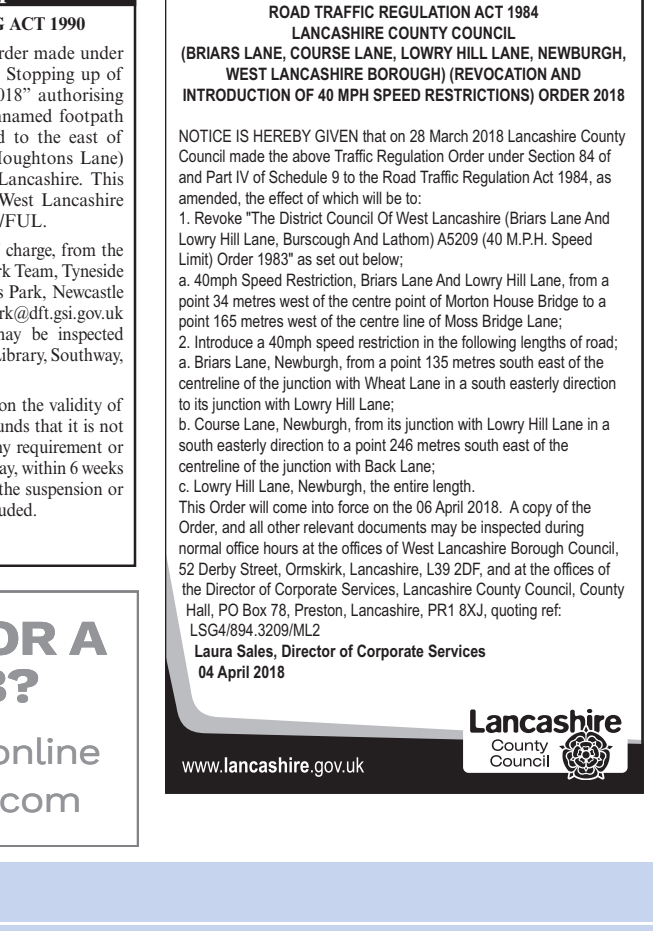

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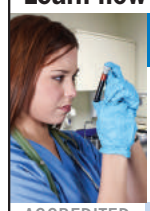
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Queenscourt

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We are currently advertising for two roles within our Clinical Team

Bank Healthcare Assistants – Queenscourt at Home Team
As and when required; £16,931 pro-rata
You will deliver a range of patient care duties predominately in the community. You will be expected to work unsupervised, with confidence as a lone worker in the patients' home.
You must be able to demonstrate empathy and communicate effectively about death and dying with patients, families and health professionals. The applicants must have experience of working within the community and possess NVQ Level 3 in Care or equivalent.

Healthcare Assistant – Inpatient Unit
Permanent; 21hpw; £16,931 - £20,049 pro-rata
The hours include shift patterns including internal rotation to nights. NVQ Level 3 in Care or equivalent required, experience in palliative care preferred. Applicants should be able to prove a genuine interest in palliative care and possess excellent communication skills.

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: Sunday 15th April 2018

For further information or to arrange an informal visit, please contact Sister Aimee Oni on 01704 517 923 regarding the Inpatient role and Sister Julie Davidson on 01704 517929 regarding the Bank roles in the Community.
Applications forms and job descriptions are available from www.queenscourt.org.uk/jobs

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www.healthsocialcarewl.weebly.com/richards.house.html

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call: **07518347559**

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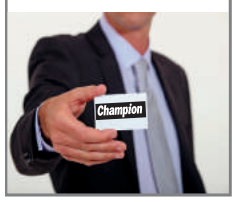

Office Assistant - Administration Team

JC&A SOLICITORS

JC&A Solicitors are a well-established Personal Injury Firm who are seeking an enthusiastic candidate to join our Administration Team on a fixed term contract.

The role includes data input, file closing, post, general office duties and other tasks as required. No previous experience is necessary as full training and support will be given, however higher education qualifications would be preferable, but not essential.

Please submit your c.v for the attention of Sue McDermott to **info@jcasolicitors.co.uk**

If you do not hear from us within 10 days, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

CLASS TEACHER X2

Moorside C P Academy, Skelmersdale

Grade	Main Pay Scale
Term	Full Time
Perm / Temp	Permanent after successful probationary period
Required	From 01/09/2018
Closing Date	20/04/2018 at 12:00pm

Moorside CP Academy governors, staff and pupils are looking to appoint two highly motivated, dedicated and enthusiastic class teachers to join the outstanding team at Moorside CP Academy. We are seeking outstanding teachers who are passionate about teaching and learning where every child achieves in a safe and nurturing environment. You will have high expectations for all of our pupils and ensure that all are challenged and motivated to succeed. You will understand the importance of being accountable for children's progress and you will work with colleagues to further contribute to the development of Moorside pupils as caring young members of the school and wider community.

The successful candidate will:
- have high expectations of teaching and learning
- be committed to raising standards in all areas of the curriculum
- be supportive of the nurturing SEAL approach to behaviour management
- work collaboratively and build positive relationships with all stakeholders
- be creative, innovative and forward thinking
- be committed to improving the outcomes and life chances of young people
- be committed to ensure that all children are safe from harm and a working understanding of up to date safeguarding issues

We can offer:
- vibrant children who enjoy school and learning
- a committed, forward thinking staff and Governing Body
- supportive parents
- a well resourced outstanding school
- continual professional development opportunities
- a supportive, respectful and friendly team

Applications from NQT's are welcomed as well as applications from experienced teachers.
Essential Qualifications: Qualified Teacher Status.
Desirable Experience: Working in Key Stage 2.

Visits to the school are welcome on the following dates:
10/04/2018 4pm OR 11/04/2018 4pm.

Please contact Jane Lee (School Business Manager) to arrange a visit, for application details or for further information on 01695 722931.

Billing Clerk - Credit Control Department

JC&A SOLICITORS

JC&A Solicitors are a well-established Personal Injury Firm who are seeking enthusiastic candidates to join our Credit Control Department on a fixed term contract.

No previous experience is necessary as full training and support will be given, however a degree would be beneficial but not essential.
You will be trained to prepare Bills of Costs for legal services.
The role will also involve assisting the credit control team with administrative duties which will include contact with clients.

Please submit your c.v for the attention of Sue McDermott to **info@jcasolicitors.co.uk**

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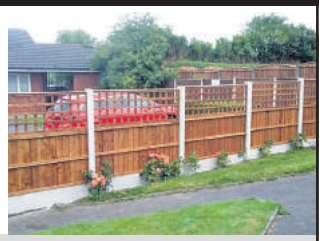

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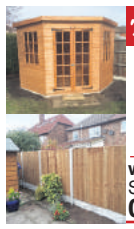

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Beeb's juggernaut could end up being pulled over

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SO Whitehall bureaucracy has succeeded where the Argentine government, the Mexican embassy and the Daily Mail have failed. Even a late-night platter of cold meat – served in a North Yorkshire hotel, of course – tried to finish Top Gear off, but if you believe the tabloids then it's a dispute over building houses that will finally force the Beeb's motoring juggernaut to pull over for good.

For those of you haven't had your head buried in the newspapers over the Easter weekend then it essentially boils down to this; the site where both the TG studios and the infamous test track are located have been earmarked for more than 1000 new homes, and last week Housing Secretary Sajid Javid ruled in the developers' favour. Perhaps in a few years' time Surrey's first-time buyers will be snapping three-bed semis in Hammerhead Close and Gambon Grove. But even if it does go ahead, will it kill Top Gear off? Not a chance. In fact, I reckon it's exactly the shot in the arm that the show needs.

I reckon that with every series under the Harris/Le Blanc/Reid premiership the show's steadily getting stronger, by gorging itself on a diet of properly done, serious car reviews. The bits that are funny are the bits that don't feel forced; the hilarious segment with the V8 tractor worked because Matt Le Blanc really does have an infectious enthusiasm for farm machinery, owning four tractors in real life. And watching Chris Harris performing all those balletic mid-corner routines is wonderful because he's clearly in his element doing it.

But the bits that really grate are the ones the trio have inherited from the old era. Specifically, The Stig, who feels like a groupie who's outstayed their welcome. If Top Gear loses its test track it'll be a great opportunity to relocate the show, keep the good bits and dump those that started wearing thin, including the tame driver.

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Linnets facing two huge local derbies

MOST believe Skelmersdale are probably safe from relegation, but some nervous fans will hope for one more win.

Meanwhile, Burscough need to start winning soon if they are to get back on the safety road in the North West Counties Premier Division.

This weekend Skelmersdale are at home to mid-table Droylsden on Saturday, April 7 at 3pm.

They are then at home on Monday, April 9 against Ossett Albion at 7.45pm.

Burscough play two local derbies over the next week. On Friday, April 6 when they travel to City of Liverpool at 7.45pm, then repeat the act when they are away to Bootle on Tuesday, April 10, at 7.45pm.

Those nervous few at Skem will be looking upon the Droylsden and Ossett games as crucial.

Dave Powell's team are now eight points above bottom placed AFC Goole with a better goal difference.

So it is very strongly in Skem's favour especially when you consider that Goole have only won six games of 36 league games so far.

Burscough's season has turned into a very interesting one. Last Tuesday they won their Macron Cup quarter-final against Northwich Victoria 2-1, so keep their foot on the silverware trail.

In the semi-final they have arguably got the best draw they could ask for in Irlam, who are only three points ahead of them in the league.

Both the City of Liverpool and Bootle matches are going to be tough ones for the Linnets, both teams still have hopes of making the promotion play-offs, so they won't be doing Burscough any favours.

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Skem keeper Chris Cheetham saves under pressure. Pictures by John Hirst.

Skem pay the price for failing to take chances

Liam Davies wins a header.

Ossett Albion 3
Skelmersdale United 1

A COMBINATION of bad luck and poor finishing saw Skelmersdale leave Ossett Albion empty handed, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

Skelmersdale had started on the front foot and in only the third minute Liam Davies found Tunde Owolabi with a sweeping diagonal ball, but a superbly timed tackle by home number two Joe Wilkinson put an end to that threat.

Ossett had their first attempt on 25 minutes. A high ball was headed down to leading goal scorer Adam Priestley but he shot wide of the far post.

Ten minutes before the break Bakkor saw his shot deflected off target then Priestley went close at the other end, but Fleming saved Skem with a goal-line clearance.

Albion grabbed the lead on 51 minutes when Scott Metcalfe came in at pace and put a shot across Skem keeper Chris Cheetham into the far corner.

The goal gave Albion a momentum that they didn't have in the first-half and now they pressed Skelmersdale.

Albion struck again in the 74th minute, substitute Marcus Day latching onto a loose ball and scoring from close range.

It might have been a different story but for a terrific reaction save by Albion's Bennett in the 77th minute. Bakkor and Barrigan set up Darr and his header was going under the crossbar until Bennett stuck out a hand to block the ball and grasped it at the second attempt.

When Phil Mooney fouled Priestley on 83 minutes for a penalty to the home side, it was effectively all over when Priestley sent Cheetham the wrong way from the spot to make it 3-0.

Skelm pulled back a late goal via Darr and 3-0 would have been an injustice.

Albion had been marginally the better outfit, a factor being their strength and experience in the blustery weather on the soft surface. Skelmersdale didn't play badly and given a bit of luck might even have won.

#	Team	Pl	Pts
18.	Ramsbottom United	33	35
19.	Radcliffe Borough	34	34
20.	Skelmersdale United	36	32
21.	Brighouse Town	34	28
22.	Goole AFC	36	24

Skelmersdale are third from bottom in the Evo-Stik North table

Ekpolo double isn't enough as Burscough suffer defeat

Congleton Town 4
Burscough 2

BURSCOUGH twice took the lead but couldn't keep out their opposition and conceded four in a spirited defeat, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

On 18 minutes Prince Ekpolo went close for Burscough but put a good opportunity over the home crossbar.

Expolo didn't miss in the 24th minute, his shot from just inside the box beating home goalkeeper Danny Eccles to give Burscough the lead.

It was always going to be an end to end game and after Ekpolo almost scored again Congleton responded.

Burscough goalkeeper Josh Samberg saving from Will Hasler-Cregg before the hosts won a free-kick. Luke Edwards hoisted the ball into the goalmouth and Morris headed home from close range.

Burscough went on the offensive and almost netted before they did on 35 minutes.

Eccles made a good save from a Cummings shot but the rebound fell to Ekpolo who got his second of the afternoon to make it 2-1 to Burscough. As the interval beckoned Congleton won a succession of corners and from one experienced centre-forward Steve Foster was tripped, a penalty was given and David Short fired home the spot kick to make it 2-2 at half-time.

Congleton came out of the dressing room looking sharp and they crucially scored inside three minutes. Former Chorley and Salford man Foster finding the net from an acute angle.

The Burscough efforts to equalise came ultimately at a cost. Congleton counter-attacked in added time and substitute Declan Fletcher scored from 18 yards.

Burscough will probably need another 11 or 12 points to ensure safety, they have nine games left to achieve it in.

	Burscough	35	35
	Maine Rd	35	32
	AFC Liverpool	34	30
	AFC Darwen	31	15
	Barnton	38	12

Burscough remain three points off the bottom four

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Top prices paid for all diamond items even if there are stones missing. Any platinum bought for cash in any condition! We are always looking to purchase antique diamond jewellery & large sapphires, emeralds & rubies

SILVER

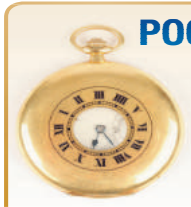
Tea sets, cutlery, trays, candlesticks, cigarette cases, ingots, spoons, boxes, jewellery, watches, investment silver, proof sets, medals, coins, charm bracelets, pocket watches, trophies

VINTAGE COSTUME JEWELLERY

We will also buy your collections of vintage costume jewellery, why not bring the whole jewellery box and find out what it's worth!

GOLD COINS

Gold coins of any description, in any condition, proof sets, Sovereigns, Krugerrands. We also buy silver coin proof sets

POCKET WATCHES

Cash paid for gold and silver pocket watches in any condition, working or broken they still have a value to us

PRE 1947 SILVER COINS

We pay 8 x face value for all pre 1947 silver coins. You bring in £10 face value & we will give you £80 cash

LADIES WATCHES

Gold ladies wristwatches that have gone out of fashion, face is too small, broken & cost to much to repair? Bring it along

WEDDING RINGS

Old wedding rings or engagement rings, jewellery from a previous relationship that is sat in the back if the drawer doing nothing? Bring it along

CHARM BRACELETS

All gold and silver charm bracelets wanted for cash. In any condition, dirty, broken, it does not matter to us!

Enquiries 07981 688278 or visit WWW.WINDSORBULLION.CO.UK

Vintage Omega Speedmasters

Amber

Cherry Amber / Bakelite

Louis Vuitton Trunks

Minimum £1000 Paid

DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE ITEMS?

WE WILL MAKE YOU AN OFFER YOU CANNOT REFUSE, IN ANY CONDITION.

TOP PRICES IN EVERY INSTANCE

LARGE DIAMONDS 1CT +

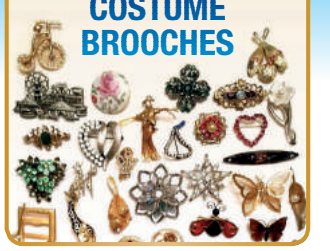
MASONIC COLLECTABLES

ART DECO DIAMOND JEWELLERY

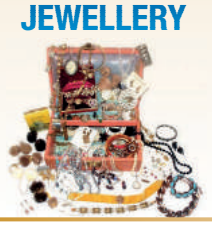
CULTURED PEARLS

GOLD BROOCHES

COSTUME BROOCHES



BOXES OF COSTUME JEWELLERY



MINIATURE PORTRAITS

ART NOUVEAU JEWELLERY

ROLLED GOLD

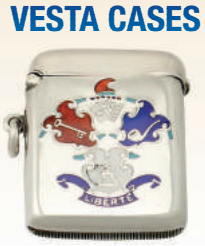
GOLD LOCKETS

MILITARY MEDALS

ANTIQUE SILVER

OLD GOLD WATCH CHAINS

VESTA CASES



SCOTTISH SILVER

CARTIER LIGHTERS

DRESSING TABLE SETS

ENAMEL CIGARETTE CASES

CAMEO BROOCHES

CORAL JEWELLERY

SILVER TEA SERVICES

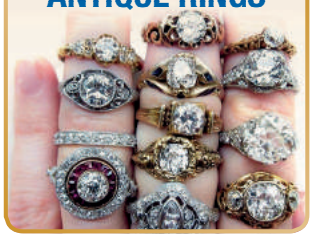
COIN BRACELETS

VINTAGE COMPACTS

ANTIQUE BANGLES

SILVER HAT PINS

ANTIQUE RINGS



BAKELITE JEWELLERY

ART DECO JEWELLERY

VINTAGE GLASS NECKLACES

VINTAGE & ANTIQUE AMBER NECKLACES & BEADS WANTED!

GOOD AMBER NECKLACES ARE COMMANDING VERY HIGH PRICES, DO YOU HAVE ONE HIDDEN AWAY? BRING IT ALONG & FIND OUT WHAT IT'S WORTH!

Enquiries 07981 688278 or visit WWW.WINDSORBULLION.CO.UK

WE WISH TO PURCHASE IN ANY CONDITION

WRISTWATCHES, POCKET WATCHES & UNUSUAL TIME PIECES

Avia
Accurist
Breitling
Cartier
Gerrard
I.W.C
J W Benson
Jaeger LeCoultre
Longines
Mappin & Webb
Military
Omega
Oris
Patek Philippe
Pocket Watches
Rolex
Rotary
Roamer
Seiko
Smiths
Tag Heuer
Tissot
Tudor
Vacheron & Constantin
Zenith
etc etc

CARRIAGE CLOCKS

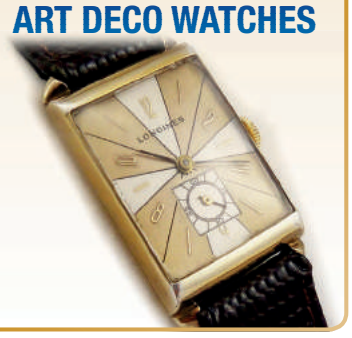
DIAMOND COCKTAIL WATCHES

1970's WATCHES

GOLD POCKET WATCHES

ANTIQUE SILVER POCKET WATCHES

ART DECO WATCHES



GOLD PLATED WATCHES

MILITARY POCKET WATCHES

TRENCH WRISTWATCHES

LADIES GOLD WATCHES

MENS GOLD WATCHES

PREMIUM WRISTWATCHES, ROLEX, OMEGA ETC

MILITARY WRISTWATCHES

REPEATER POCKET WATCHES

STAINLESS STEEL WATCHES

NONE GOLD VINTAGE WATCHES

WE SPECIALISE IN HIGH GRADE FOREIGN GOLD

WITH OR WITHOUT HALLMARKS

INDIAN - TURKISH
SAUDI - THAI
IN ANY CONDITION!
14CT, 18CT,
21CT, 22CT, 24CT

Enquiries 07981 688278 or visit WWW.WINDSORBULLION.CO.UK

GOLD, SILVER & COLLECTABLES WANTED FOR CASH

IF YOU HAVE OLD, BROKEN, UNUSED, UNWANTED **GOLD** JEWELLERY IN ANY CONDITION BRING IT TO THE EXPERTS.

4 DAY ROADSHOW
PRINCE OF WALES HOTEL

Lord Street, Southport, PR8 1JS

Tuesday 10th April 10am - 4pm
Wednesday 11th April 10am - 4pm
Thursday 12th April 10am - 4pm
Friday 13th April 10am - 3pm

DISCREET HOME VISITS AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA - PLEASE CALL SARAH ON 07981 688278

VINTAGE 1950's, 1960's, 1970's, 1980's WATCHES WANTED

ROLEX • OMEGA • ENICAR • TAG HEUER • LEMANIA • YEMA • BREITLING • ZENITH • ETERNA • IWC • JAEGER LECOULTRE

WANTED
ANY WATCHES
WITH CHRONOGRAPH
OR
MULTI DIALS

DOUBLE / SINGLE
BUTTONS

UNSURE?
BRING IT ALONG
TO FIND OUT

VINTAGE OMEGA
SPEEDMASTERS
WANTED IN
ANY CONDITION

WORKING
NOT WORKING
PARTS MISSING

WE WILL PAY A
MINIMUM OF £500 FOR
A BROKEN1960'S
OMEGA SPEEDMASTER

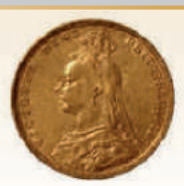
DIVERS WATCHES • RALLY WATCHES • MILITARY WATCHES • PILOTS WATCHES • ANY CONDITION

PREMIUM PAID FOR WATCHES WITH ORIGINAL BOX & PAPERS - WHOLE COLLECTIONS PURCHASED

WE BUY GOLD & SILVER COINS IN ANY CONDITION

Gold Coins
Gold Bars
Silver Coins
Silver Bars
Sovereigns
Krugerrands
Coin Sets
£5 Piece
Antique Gold & Silver Coins
Fine Gold
Guineas
Britanias
Foreign Gold Coins
Pre 1947 Silver Coins

This Week's Full Sovreigns Price:
£220



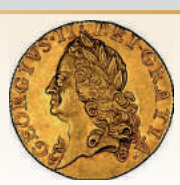
SOVEREIGNS

COIN PENDANTS

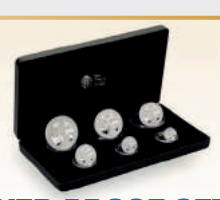
KRUGGERANDS

COIN RINGS

GOLD PROOF SETS



ANTIQUE GOLD COINS



SILVER PROOF SETS

PRE 1947 SILVER COINS

SILVER CROWNS

WE PAY 8 X FACE VALUE FOR PRE 1947 SILVER COINS HALF CROWNS • SHILLINGS • FLORINS • SIXPENCE • THREEPENCE